Starts Midnight
amazon prime day
4 - 6 July

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Starts Midnight
amazon prime day
4 - 6 July

OpenAI discusses giving US govt a 5% stake as AI firms face scrutiny in Washington over likely misuse of advanced models and whether Americans will benefit from the industry's massive valuations, See Times Global

Russia launches hundreds of drones, dozens of missiles at Ukraine's capital Kyiv, killing at least 21 people, wounding scores more and damaging 130 buildings in one of the biggest attacks of the war, See Times Global

FLIPPED IT by THE TIMES OF INDIA

A 60-SECOND DAILY WORD CHALLENGE. Crack the word, build your streak, share your score. Top scorers get featured in **TOI**

Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce will have their wedding at Madison Square Garden on Friday night, according to a law enforcement official briefed on security plans, See Times Global

Monsoon may weaken in 2nd half of July: IMD

The weather department has indicated that rainfall could weaken in the second half of July while the first two weeks of the month are expected to bring good rainfall over the west coast and parts of central India, aided by a favourable monsoon circulation. Projections for the third and fourth weeks of July indicate below-normal rainfall over much of the country, said an IMD scientist. P 13

BoB, BR Shetty strike $600-million NMC settlement

Bank of Baroda has reached an out-of-court settlement of $600 million with the collapsed West Asian healthcare group NMC Health. The agreement marks a key milestone in resolving claims arising from the dramatic collapse of NMC Health in 2020, a crisis that followed the downfall of the healthcare giant founded by NRI businessman B R Shetty. Shares of BoB closed at Rs 260.15, down 4%. P 17

Mumbai man falls into open manhole, dies

Two days after a tree collapse killed an 11-year-old schoolboy, a 55-year-old man, Aslam Isak Shaikh, died after falling into an open manhole in Mumbai amid the wet spell, prompting BMC chief Ashwini Bhide to order suspension of four civic officials — an assistant commissioner and three engineers. The strong flow of water made it hard to locate him initially. His body was later recovered. TNN

2 people dead in Himachal rains

Two people died and 25 pilgrims were stranded in Himachal Pradesh as heavy rain triggered landslides and flash floods across the state. A bridge near a temple was washed away leaving around 25 pilgrims stranded. P 13

Freak accident at store kills teenager

A teen was killed in an accident at a store on Tannery road. Salman Khan, 15, was using a hydraulic lift to carry paint cans when his hair got entangled in the machinery, causing him to fall, after which his head was crushed. P 4

Navy foils piracy bid on India-bound ship

An Indian Navy warship thwarted a piracy bid on an India-bound merchant vessel MV Golden Arsenal in the Gulf of Aden Wednesday night. Marcos boarded the vessel and secured the ship, carrying an Indian sailor. TNN

INQUIZITIVE
For our weekly quiz, which now appears every Friday, please turn to P 13

India's Tokyo Drift: PMs open new chapter in bilateral ties

Boost Cooperation In AI, Security, Defence & Energy

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New Delhi: Japan PM Sanae Takaichi's visit to India for the India-Japan summit heralded what her counterpart Narendra Modi described as a new chapter in their special strategic and global partnership, with both sides signing several agreements to boost cooperation in AI, energy security, mineral exploration and defence.

The two also adopted a roadmap for economic security to boost supply chain resilience in strategic sectors like semiconductors and critical minerals, while agreeing to review the 15-year-old India-Japan CEPA to enhance bilateral trade. Building upon his remarks at G7 about the sanctity of mutual trust amid global turmoil, Modi said India-Japan ties exemplified a relationship based on unbreakable reciprocal trust. In all, the visit yielded 16 outcomes.

Amongst the highlights was also an announcement by Modi about India and Japan signing their first co-development project for the Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) that, the PM said, will open another new chapter in defence technology partnership. "Now, we will together develop such defence technologies that will strengthen regional peace, maritime security, and rule-based order," said Modi.

▶UNICORN alliance, P 11

INDIA-JAPAN BHAI BEHEN: PM Modi with his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi prior to their meeting at Hyderabad House Thursday

After Abe, you are my elder brother, Sanae tells Modi

I considered Shinzo Abe, who I treated you as a friend, to be my elder brother. Now that he is not with us, I consider you to be my elder brother," visiting Japanese PM Sanae Takaichi is learnt to have told PM Modi. The remark, made during the "restricted meeting" led Modi to say he also thought of Takaichi as his younger sister. The warmth was not surprising, given that Takaichi considers Abe as her mentor. Abe, who was widely recognised to be a friend of India, is credited with pioneering the concept of Quad, the informal grouping of India, Japan, US and Australia, during his famous 2007 address to the Indian Parliament. After taking over as PM, Modi developed a good rapport with Abe.

7 workers killed and 5 injured in quarry boulder crash near B'luru

Safety Protocols Not Followed; CM Seeks Report

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Seven workers were killed and five others injured after a massive boulder crashed onto them at a quarry in the outskirts of Bengaluru Thursday.

The accident occurred around 7am at Udayashankar Stone Crushers in Madapattana, Bengaluru South.

At adjoining Basaveshwara Stone Crushers, located at a higher level, rocks were being crushed and readied for transport, when a boulder broke loose, rolled down about 40 feet and crashed onto a group of 16 workers – mostly migrants – below.

Rangappa S, director of the department of mines and geology, told **TOI** mandatory safety protocols for post-blasting operations were not followed. Officials in the mines and geology department also said rocks had come loose during blasting, two months ago.

Following the incident, quarrying has been suspended at 54 sites in the area.

Seeking a detailed report on the incident, chief minister D K Shivakumar assured action against those responsible. He also said the govt would introduce new quarry plans and issue safety guidelines to prevent such accidents in the future.

Families of those killed will receive Rs 10 lakh each, while each injured will get Rs 5 lakh in compensation from the quarry owners, who will also bear the medical expenses of the injured, officials said.

▶Crushed before eyes, P 2

PTI

Cops look for survivors at the crash site on Thursday. Chief minister DK Shivakumar said Karnataka govt would introduce new quarry plans and issue safety guidelines to prevent such accidents

ED, RBI settle 150 Fema cases in 15 months

Faced with a pile of cases under the foreign exchange management Act (Fema) and eager to avoid long-running legal battles, ED is settling for large-scale compounding of offences and termination of adjudicating proceedings after taking RBI's approval. In the last 15 months, 150 Fema cases have been terminated by RBI after 'no-objection certificates were issued by ED.

Many of these cases were pending for years with show-cause penalty orders of hundreds of crores issued against them. One of the cases terminated last month was against Apollo Hospitals and its directors — involving alleged foreign investment related Fema violations for around Rs 850 crore. The hospital paid a penalty of over Rs 17 crore and its directors Rs 18 lakh each. P 10

Fuel prices to be cut only if global oil mkts stay stable for next few weeks: Puri

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: As international crude prices eased to near-pre-conflict levels, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday said the question of cutting retail petrol and diesel prices would become "legitimate" if global oil markets remain stable over the next few weeks.

The minister said refiners were still processing crude booked over two months ago at the height of the West Asia conflict, when prices were elevated and freight and insurance costs high. Up to June 30, the losses oil marketing companies suffered by selling petrol, diesel and LPG below costs were estimated at Rs 74,781 crore, he added.

"If crude prices remain at these levels for the next few weeks, cutting petrol and diesel prices will be a legitimate question that everybody asks. But what the situation will be then, it is not right for me to speculate," Puri said.

▶Kept supplies steady, P 13

Drop in mileage due to E20 fuel minor: Min

Puri said a "make-believe" narrative about ethanol-blended fuel had been unleashed online, adding that the dip in mileage of an E20-fuelled vehicle is "minor". "It is well established that when you have ethanol in a vehicle, which they use in racing cars also, acceleration increases, knocking improves," he said. TNN

Honeymoon murder case: Plea against bail in SC

Meghalaya govt has moved SC seeking cancellation of bail granted to Sonam Raghuvanshi, the prime accused in the murder of husband Raja Raghuvanshi at Sohra in May last year. SC has listed the matter for hearing on Friday. SG Tushar Mehta argued that the trial court granted bail to Sonam on the grounds that arresting authorities allegedly failed to fully convey the reasons for her detention. He said that a "minor typographical error" was insufficient ground for bail. TNN

Karnataka cabinet says no to power privatisation

Bengaluru: State cabinet Thursday resolved to oppose privatisation of power distribution, with CM D K Shivakumar saying state-owned electricity supply companies have been directed to oppose Tata Power's proposal before the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission.

The announcement comes days ahead of KERC's hearing on Tata Power's application to supply electricity in Bengaluru. He said Escoms had approached the govt on the Tata Power issue. "Our stand is categorical: We're against privatisation of power supply."

He said the previous BJP govt had approved Tata Power's application.

The cabinet approved creation of a new department — Prajaseva — under which district ministers will visit every assembly constituency under their remit on first and third Saturdays in a month to redress public grievances. The dept will soon get a dedicated minister & Harsh Gupta had been appointed secretary. TNN

DKS to farmers: Delay sowing, drought looming

Karnataka chief minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday appealed to farmers to rethink before sowing with the state staring at a severe drought. Shivakumar said there was inadequate flow of water in dams and farmers should not depend on the reservoirs this year until they are filled up completely. The CM is set to tour all four revenue divisions to assess the drought situation. BJP leader R Ashoka said more than 150 taluks are facing drought conditions. P 7

K'taka HC stays govt order withdrawing 52 cases against leaders & political workers

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Bengaluru: Karnataka high court Thursday stayed the state govt's decision to withdraw 52 criminal cases registered against politicians and political workers at various police stations across the state.

Congress govt issued an order on May 27 after the cabinet, at its meeting on May 21, directed public prosecutors to withdraw the cases. HC ordered stay in response to a public interest litigation filed by Bengaluru advocate Girish Bharadwaj.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice KS Hemalekha passed the order after noticing that the high court, on May 29, 2025, had stayed a similar decision of the govt and had ordered notices to the departments of home and prosecution.

The petitioner contended that 'selective withdrawal' of charges undermines the tenet of equality, creating a perception of injustice and unequal treatment.

▶Refused to provide info, P 4

'SERIOUS OFFENCES'

- The **state Congress govt had on May 27 issued an order** directing public prosecutors to withdraw 52 criminal cases
- **Petitioner submitted that he got details about only one of 52 cases** as authorities **refused to give info under RTI.** Some cases involved serious offences
- Argued that 'selective withdrawal' of charges **undermines tenet of equality**

HC quashes Maha neta externment: 'Can't citizens raise slogans?'

Mumbai: Bombay HC Thursday quashed an externment order against the office-bearer of a party who organised protests on issues such as the Citizenship Act amendments and said mere opposition to a govt decision cannot be grounds to force a person out of his surroundings.

Justice Madhav Jamdar quizzed the prosecution why an year-long externment (keeping a person out of a specific jurisdiction) was ordered against Saeed Ahmad Chaudhary, general secretary of SDPI, by citing 5 FIRs lodged against him, most for staging protests against the Centre. The judge said: "He "just raised slogans... Can't citizens raise such slogans? Why externment orders for slogans?" TNN

▶Citizens' freedom, P 10

Govt notices to Signal, Telegram over username

A day after directing Meta to pause WhatsApp's proposed username feature, govt has widened its scrutiny of messaging platforms by issuing similar notices to Telegram and Signal over their existing username systems, asking them to explain how they prevent fraud and impersonation.

▶Google loses fight against €4.1 bn EU antitrust fine, P 15

Govt wants detailed responses from both platforms on the safeguards they have in place to prevent misuse of usernames for scams, phishing, digital arrest frauds and identity impersonation. Like WhatsApp, Telegram and Signal have been given three days to respond to the notice, sources said. P 8

Share live feed, need 24/7 vigil: Angry parents after tech campus creche horror

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Alleged abuse of toddlers at a daycare centre operating from Capgemini's campus in Bengaluru has shocked the working-parent community and citizens. While pointing to a shocking absence of standards of oversight at these centres, the parents' key demands are: Livestream daycare activities to employee-parents and record all daycare areas.

Angry posts and comments flooded social-media groups of working mothers and corporate employees. Multiple commenters demanded live CCTV feed for parents, round-the-clock monitoring, biometric access controls and mandatory recording of all daycare areas, except private spaces.

Toddlers' parents were yet to make statements.

▶Top officer will head probe; nannies admit to shouting, P 3

Affected toddlers' parents get WFH

In an email to employees, Capgemini India CEO Sanjay Chalke said the company was cooperating fully with the authorities and closely monitoring developments in the case. Employees affected by the daycare closure have been allowed to work from home. Chalke said: "Our thoughts are with the children and families who may be affected.... safety, well-being, and protection of children are paramount..." TNN

Police said videos of the incident showed toddlers crying and subjected to physical abuse and torture by caregivers. The purported videos showed caregivers threatening toddlers, aged between two and three years old, when they cried or caused disturbance.

"I wish this was AI-generated and not real. Can't believe such things happen," wrote one parent in a Facebook group, echoing the disbelief expressed by others.

Many parents said the incident had shattered their confidence in such centres, which have become an important support system for dual-income families as companies increasingly push employees back to the office.

▶Safety standards, P 3

INQUIZITIVE
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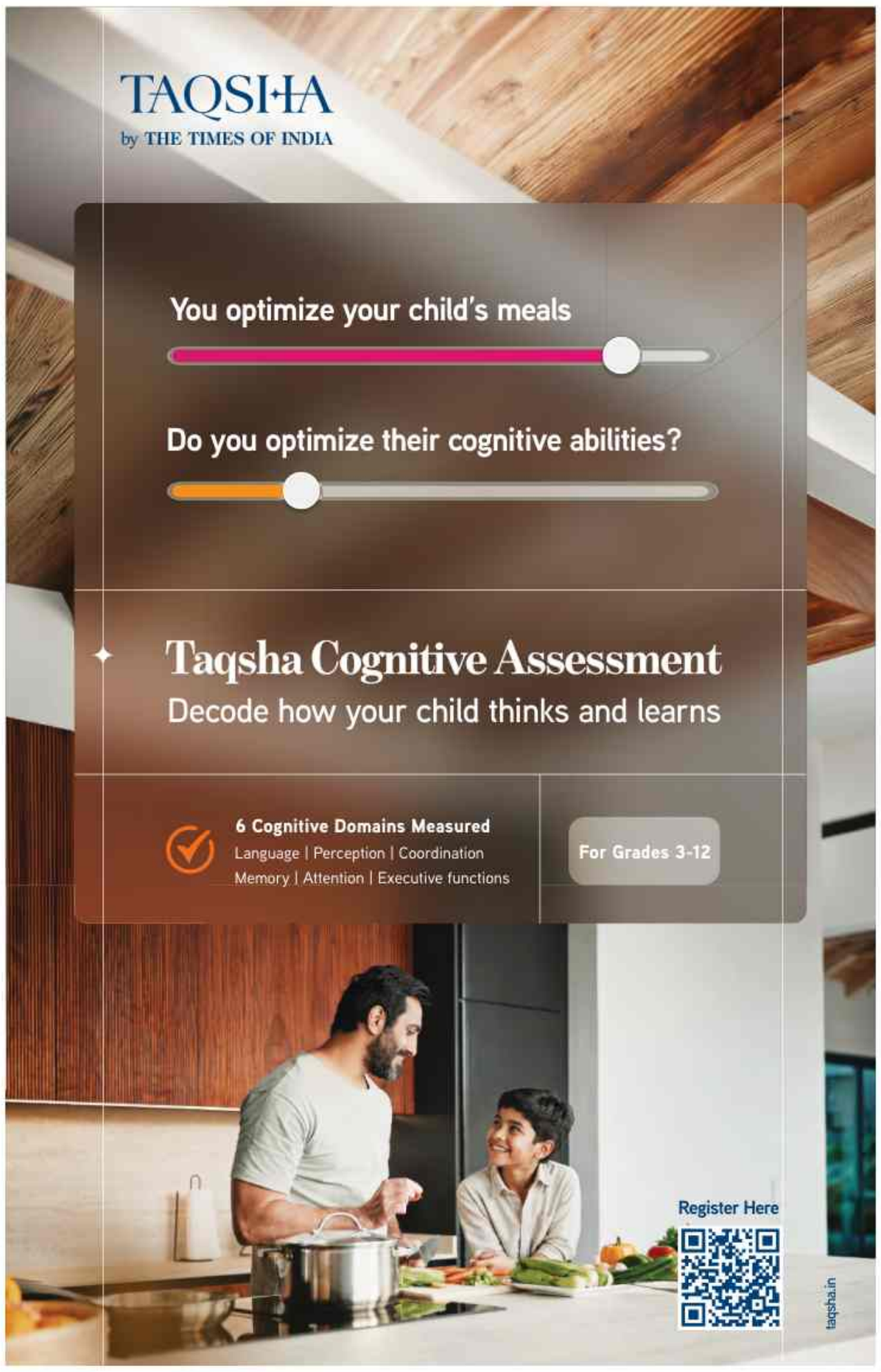


Bangalore Times

Buzzstop

JAMIA MAPPINGAM CRIBBED ROYAL HARE STRIKER CUFFED AT

BANGALORE BOY NEWS

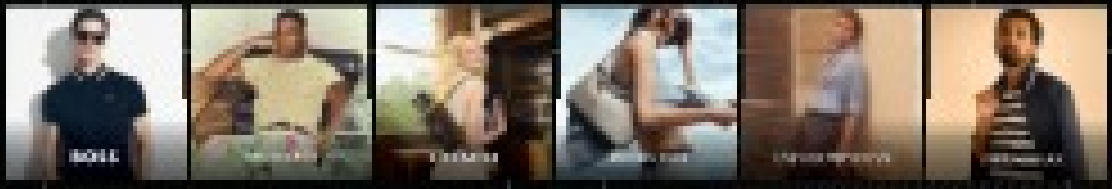
'We all have rough edges, cinema is now embracing that'

Ilaiyaraaja can't claim rights over music from 134 films: Court

AJIO LUXE STORE
INDIA'S FINEST LUXURY DESTINATION

SALE

IS NOW LIVE
GET READY FOR A SHOPPING SPREE LIKE NEVER BEFORE



kate spade
DIESEL

ORION MALL, BANGALORE

B'luru's Northern Gateway Exposes Patchwork Approach To Pedestrian Infrastructure

The Junction That FORGOT WALKERS

Sanjay.Murty@timesofindia.com

Jalahalli Cross sees thousands of vehicles every hour. But for pedestrians, one of the city's busiest junctions offers little more than a choice between broken footpaths and moving traffic.

A **TOI** walk across all four roads radiating from the junction found a striking pattern: pedestrian infrastructure exists, but only in disconnected pockets.

On the Tumakuru Road stretch opposite Jalahalli Metro station, one side has no footpath at all. The roadside has effectively become an informal bus bay where buses stop and park, forcing commuters to weave through them and traffic. The ground is uneven, covered with loose gravel and stones, making walking difficult.

Ironically, the official bus shelter nearby stands largely abandoned, surrounded by heaps of garbage. Passengers often have to cross the service road and walk onto the main carriageway to board buses.

The situation is no better on Peenya Ring Road. Four bus shelters have garbage heaps, broken footpaths and is being misused as public urinals. A makeshift autorickshaw stand blocks whatever little pedestrian space remains.

Yet, only about 100m away, the contrast is impossible to miss. A stretch developed under the B-Smile project features a white-topped road, well-laid and wide footpaths, demonstrating what the junction could have looked had the improvements been carried out consistently. Towards Dasarahalli on Tumakuru Road, while one side lacks any footpath, the other has autos, two-wheelers and shopfront spillovers occupy the road edge. On the opposite side, waste from the nearby vegetable market has accumulated. Subroto Mukherjee Road presents damaged drain covers and missing concrete slabs. At one location, a displaced slab juts dangerously out of the drain.

Despite complaints, a long-promised solution remains stuck on paper. An underpass approved under the CM Nagarothana scheme in 2017-18 has made little progress even eight years later. Land acquisition is over in parts, but construction is yet to begin.

Jalahalli Cross falls under both Bengaluru North and West city corporations, with divided administrative responsibility continuing to complicate execution of infrastructure projects.

Peenya Ring Road

1/5

Jalahalli Cross - Junction of Tumakuru Road, Subroto Mukherjee Road and Peenya Ring Road

SAFETY Poor
Absence of footpaths, missing and damaged slabs where pavements exist and garbage dumping forces pedestrians onto the busy national highway and main roads. Buses stop indiscriminately, adding to the risk faced by pedestrians.

ACCESSIBILITY Poor
The junction is a busy transit hub with a Metro station, BMTC bus stops and pick-up points for inter-city buses. Lack of footpaths and bus bays force pedestrians onto the service road as well as the main road while boarding or alighting buses.

MAINTENANCE Poor
Vehicles parked on the only footpaths available render the infrastructure useless. Broken slabs, missing cobblestones and untarred roads add to the walkability challenge at Jalahalli Cross.

Tumakuru Road

Pics: TOI

Peenya Ring Road

WHAT TOI SAW

- Footpaths disappear abruptly across multiple stretches
- Bus bays have spilled onto pedestrian space, with buses stopping & parking where people should walk
- Bus shelters are damaged or filled with garbage or misused as public urinals
- Parked vehicles, autorickshaw stands and electricity poles block otherwise usable footpaths
- Broken drain covers, missing concrete slabs and unfinished road repairs
- A stalled underpass project and split civic jurisdiction continue to delay long-term solutions

SM Road

DILAPIDATED: For pedestrians, one of the city's busiest junctions in Jalahalli offers little more than a choice between broken or encroached footpaths and moving traffic

"I've repeatedly reported footpath issues on Sahaaya app, but many complaints are closed without any action. North and West city corporation officials keep passing the responsibility. Even outside Peenya police station, footpaths built with CSR funds have been turned into parking lots for accident-damaged vehicles. Govt agencies and traffic police should lead by example instead of allowing such violations

Anilkumar Janardanan | RETIRED ENGINEER, JALAHALLI WEST

"Bengaluru is not just about IT. Industrial hubs like Peenya generate lakhs of jobs and see heavy pedestrian movement. Nearby roads such as Pipeline Road also have missing or encroached footpaths. Officials must regularly inspect these stretches. After the Supreme Court's recent observation, clearing or building footpaths only requires the will to act

T Vasanth Vete | JALAHALLI CROSS RESIDENT

"Along Tumakuru Road, footpaths are missing and parts of the road remain untarred, with gravel and jelly stones. The poor approach to the Metro station also discourages people from using public transport

Srinidhi Swaminathan | JALAHALLI CROSS RESIDENT

"Buses are parked haphazardly, vehicles routinely flout traffic rules, and there is no proper pedestrian crossing. Several footpath slabs are missing, making it unsafe for people to walk. On top of that, large quantities of garbage are dumped along Ayyappa Temple Road. These issues pose a serious risk to pedestrian safety

Nagarajan R | JALAHALLI CROSS RESIDENT

Footpaths cleared, but where will street vendors go now?

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Bengaluru: As the five city corporations intensify footpath-clearance drives under GBA's Safe Footpath initiative, a key question remains unanswered: where will thousands of street vendors displaced from pavements earn their livelihood?

While Bengaluru development minister Krishna Byre Gowda has maintained that vendors are not being evicted but only shifted from arterial roads to ward-level streets, the move has triggered concerns. Civic activists say their rights and livelihoods must be protected.

Experts argue that footpath safety cannot be selectively enforced on major roads while ignoring conditions on neighbourhood streets.

For years, such drives have followed a familiar cycle. Authorities remove vendors, only for many to return within days. Vendors, however, say they have no alternative spaces to work.

The recurring cycle points to a structural gap — incomplete implementation of Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

The Act mandates surveys of vendors, formation of Town Vending Committees, issuance of vending certificates and scientific demarcation of vending zones based on carrying capacity and pedestrian movement.

The then BBMP conducted a survey identifying 30,000 vendors and mapped 230 potential zones with 7,000 spots. But the process was never completed. No vending zones have been notified, no cards issued, and the committees remain unconstituted. Over the years, govts have proposed steps such as mobile vending units. A budget allocation of Rs 42 crore was announced, but vendors say progress has been minimal.

Campaign to clear abandoned vehicles

A drive will be launched to clear abandoned vehicles parked on roadsides from July 10. A plan will be chalked out to clear bulk construction debris and wild vegetation after July 15.

TOI

"The govt must complete the survey, constitute vending committees and notify vending zones. You cannot enforce only the eviction provisions of the Act and ignore its protections. The question is not whether pedestrians need footpaths, but whether Bengaluru can create streets that work for pedestrians, vendors and traffic together

Vinay Sreenivasan | ADVOCATE

Drive continues, leaves behind trash

The city's Safe Footpaths campaign continued for the second consecutive day Thursday, with GBA carrying out encroachment-clearance drives across major roads

East City Corporation
- Hope Farm to Varthur Kodi, Hoodi Flyover to Ayyappa Nagar, along Outer Ring Road in Bellandur-Marathahalli division

8.8 km | 9

Bengaluru North City Corporation
- 5th Cross in HBR Layout, 5th Main Road in Ganganagar, Hesaraghatta Main Road, from Saptagiri College to 8th Mile, Sahakar Nagar Main Road, Thanisandra Main Road, and Rachenahalli Main Road

12.7 km | 10

West City Corporation
- 50 Feet Road and near Srinagar Bus Stand

South City Corporation
- 11th Main Road in Jayanagar, Jayanagar 30th Cross to 9th Main Road, JP Nagar 21st Main Road, 9th Cross to ORR, HSR Layout Signal on 14th Main Road to Jakkasandra Circle

10.4 km | 12

Bengaluru Central City Corporation
- Residency Road, Old Madras Road, Ashoka Pillar Road in Jayanagar, Mission Road, Mysore Bank Circle and 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar

8.5 km | 11

Length of footpath cleared
No. of roads

BACK ON THE STREETS
- Many shopkeepers have once again placed nameboards, baskets, crates and other merchandise on footpaths
- Several otherwise well-built footpaths rendered unusable because of garbage dumping and poor maintenance
- In many locations, authorities focused on removing vendors and other encroachments, but paid little attention to clearing litter or repairing damaged infrastructure

Footpaths in JC Nagar & RT Nagar are unusable due to garbage and poor upkeep

*West City Corporation data not updated

7 co-workers crushed before our eyes: Survivor

▸ Continued from page 1

Those dead have been identified as Ramu Poojari, 28, of Yadgir in Karnataka; Rajpal Singh, 35, Satyanarayana Singh, 31, Ramavatar Singh, 31, Bhuvaneshwar Singh, 38, Rajesh Prasad Choudhary, 28, all from Madhya Pradesh; and Dharmesh Singh from Chhattisgarh.

The injured are Chotu Lal, Rajpal Singh, and Gulab Singh, all from MP; Nehal Singh from Chhattisgarh, and M Anand from Tavarakere, Karnataka. They were moved to Rajarajeshwari Hospital on Mysuru Road.

Police filed an FIR against D Anandaswamy, the owner of Basaveshwara Stone Crushers, SR Udayshankar, the owner of Udayshankar Stone Crushers, and Tirupati, the driver of an earthmover. While Tirupati is in police custody, search is on for the other two accused. Reacting to the incident, deputy CM G Parameshwara said: "There are many illegal quarries active across the state. We will act against those."

TOI

MANGLED: Seven workers killed and five injured in the quarry accident Thursday were migrants from Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

T Gopikrishnan, 25, one of the 16 workers who survived, said they initially heard a loud rumbling noise. Before anyone could move, the boulders came crashing on them. "We managed to escape at the very last moment. Seven of our co-workers were crushed before our eyes. We were helpless. No one had warned us that boulders at the quarry above were being moved," he said.

Ramu's mother, who rushed to the spot, said: "We had come to this quarry for promised daily wages of around Rs 800. Now, my son is dead. Who will look after our family?" Ramu's son said he pulled his father's body stuck under a boulder.

Another survivor, Vinod Kumar, who was operating an earthmover near the accident site, said he escaped death by a whisker. "I was at that very spot just a few seconds before the incident. As I drove away, I heard a loud thud, followed by screams," Kumar said.

ADGP (law and order) R Hitendra said the crushers had a licence, but there were many lapses on the operations part. "A spot inspection revealed there was carelessness on the part of the owners and the others concerned at the two quarries," he added.

MLA ST Somashekhar from Yeshwantpur constituency said besides the quarry owners, managers, govt officials, police personnel and those responsible at the mines and geology and forest departments should also be booked for negligence.

Closed and disrupted service roads in Kalyan Nagar add to ORR congestion

Anush S and Syed Asif | TNN

Bengaluru: For the last three months, thousands of motorists and commuters travelling from Hebbal to Tin Factory have been spending a significant chunk of time stuck in the traffic gridlock in Kalyan Nagar.

The already crowded part of Outer Ring Road (ORR) now has its space reduced due to the construction of Airport Metro line. While travelling from Tin Factory towards Hebbal, commuters say the left-side service road below Kalyan Nagar flyover has been closed and is currently being used as a parking area for BMRCL construction goods vehicles. A significant part of the service road is being used by BMRCL to station its construction equipment.

However, on navigation platforms like Google Maps, the road continues to be shown open. When **TOI** visited the stretch, a load truck was stationed on the service road, reducing the little available space due to the barricades. Frustrated with traffic at a standstill, a cab driver and several other commuters stepped out of their vehicles and started walking ahead to check the congestion and length of the bottleneck.

Syed Asif

Motorists stranded on ORR between Kalyan Nagar& Horamavu junction as Metro Blue Line corridor construction faces severe delays

Vishwas Setlur, a resident of Kalyan Nagar, said there are a lot of deviations and most of the traffic goes through service roads as the main road is blocked for Metro work. "The quality of service roads has gone for a toss. I live in an apartment adjacent to the service road and I can hear heavy vehicles hitting the potholes. Metro construction vehicles parked here reduce the available space at these temporary exit and entry points and have made the situation worse," he added.

According to Shree Ram Bishnoi, a warden volunteering with traffic police, the issue exists in both directions between Hebbal and Tin Factory. In an appeal to traffic police on X, Bishnoi stated that vehicles enter the service road only to discover that it is blocked. "They are then forced to return to the main carriageway, take a U-turn, or in many cases drive on the wrong side to access the service road, creating unnecessary congestion and increasing the risk of accidents," he wrote.

Bishnoi told **TOI** the situation has been the same for around four months. "Because the service road is showing as open on Maps, whichever vehicle is coming to Hebbal from Tin Factory will have to pass through the main road and take a U-turn only at Hennur Cross."

BMRCL, however, argued that construction vehicles stationed on the service road are not a regular occurrence. "It was an isolated incident. We already checked as to why vehicles were stationed along the service road. All the closures and diversions are implemented in coordination with traffic police," a senior BMRCL official said.

An inspector from Banaswadi traffic police station maintained that no complaint on the issue has been reported till now.

Simple Suni steps into darker territory with Moda Kavida Vaathavarana

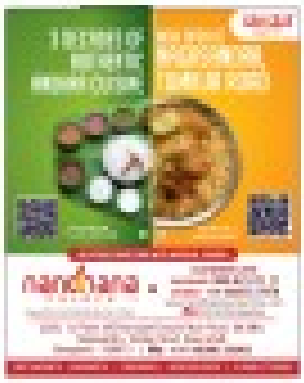
Known for his romantic entertainers, director Sunil Kumar aka 'Simple Suni' has taken a sharp dip not only in his choice of subject but also in his style of narration with Kannada dubbed political thriller Modalakavida Vaathavarana, now running in theatres. During a joint interview at the Bengaluru Times Office, Sunil and actors Malavika Gopal, Darshan Bheemaiah and Sruthi Nair spoke about stepping out of their comfort zones and why trust and transparency are crucial while making films.

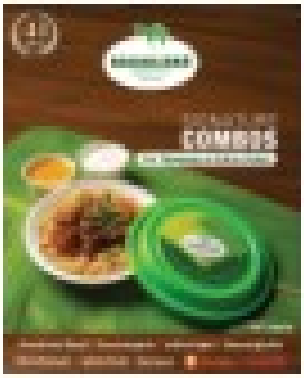
MOKSHA
'This role challenged me as an actor'

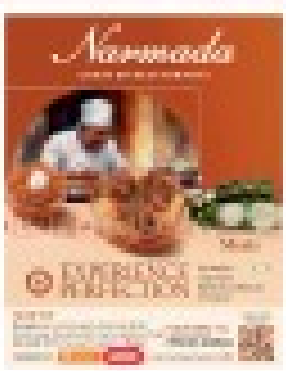
DIGNAL
'Families must relax keys better'

DHEERAJ
'I knew my time would come'

SAHYOGA
'I discovered a different side of Suni'







OTT frees you from box office pressure, says Madhuri Dixit

Aspiring model shares pics, finds them on adult websites

Chaithanya.Swamy
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: A college student's dream of pursuing a modelling career has spiralled into a horrifying cybercrime, with her photographs being uploaded across multiple adult websites and social media platforms. The accused, claiming to be a hacker, demanded more intimate photographs in exchange for removing the content and threatened to create and circulate more fake nude images if she refused.

Clara (name changed), 21, a resident of east Bengaluru, told police the ordeal began on June 26, when an acquaintance informed her that many of her photographs were being circulated on an adult website. She later found that around 50 of her photos had been uploaded by a user identified as "MIGHT" in the early hours of June 26.

Her friend helped her file a complaint on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. Two days later, the harassment escalated when she received a WhatsApp message from +66 942757270. The sender told her that another album containing around 50 photos of her had been uploaded on another adult website by a user identified as "dahsir17" and claimed that the images were "going viral".

She filed another online complaint against the second website. When she questioned the sender about the uploads, the person claimed to be a hacker and offered to remove the photographs. However, the person demanded that she send more private and intimate photos in exchange for deleting the content and asked whether she agreed to the "deal."

She approached police, who advised her to stop responding. The suspect then began threatening her, claiming that as she had refused to oblige, he would upload a second batch of fabricated, sexually explicit images and videos using her face on another person's body matching hers.

The harassment did not stop there. Later the same day, another acquaintance alerted her through Instagram that some of her photographs had surfaced on Reddit. She found that around nine images from the same collection had been uploaded by the user, Optimal_Divide604. Traumatised, Clara told police that the photographs dated back to 2023-24, when she was 18-19 years old and aspiring to become a model during her first year of graduation.

She said she had uploaded her profile to a talent-search platform, after which several modelling agents and agencies approached her. She shared the images in confidence, with the understanding that they would be used solely for professional assessment and would never be published or circulated. After leaving the modelling industry, she deleted her conversations with the agents and blocked many of them. However, she has now compiled a list of individuals and agencies with whom she had shared the photographs and has provided it to police.

Her private photographs spread among her college peers and across multiple online platforms.

A case has been registered under the Information Technology Act. A senior officer said the objectionable content has been removed from the platforms.

STUDENT'S CONFIDENCE EXPLOITED

- 21-year-old student discovers around 50 of her modelling photographs uploaded on multiple adult websites and later shared on social media platforms
- A person claiming to be hacker contacts her on WhatsApp, demands more intimate photographs in exchange for removing content circulating online
- Student says leaked photographs were originally shared in confidence with modelling agents and agencies during 2023-24

- Images spread among her college peers and across online platforms
- Police officer says objectionable online content has now been removed

DCP-rank officer to probe; nannies admit to shouting

Five Charged With Criminal Intimidation

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Police Thursday announced a thorough investigation by a senior woman officer into allegations of inhuman treatment of toddlers at the daycare centre of a tech company in Bengaluru, while widening their probe to cover all daycare centres in the city into their activities and compliance with established guidelines.

DAYCARE HORROR

With police turning up the heat, nannies, during questioning, allegedly admitted to shouting at toddlers who created "too much disturbance".

Based on a complaint filed by an official from the children's helpline, HAL police booked five nannies from the daycare centre located on the premises of Capgemini's Brookefield campus.

Manjula, Vijayalakshmi, Bhavani, Sindhu, and Bindu were booked on charges of criminal intimidation under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Terming the incident "a very serious issue", police commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh promised the strictest possible action against those guilty.

"The daycare centre had been outsourced. We are checking whether the outsourced company is running daycare centres in other parts of the city and what is the condition at those centres. If the allegations (of inappropriate conduct) are true, it is an unfortunate incident. This should not have happened," he said.

According to the complaint, the caregivers placed children inside a front-loading washing machine, made them sit on a western-style toilet, sprayed water into their mouths using a toilet jet spray, locked them inside bathrooms, and threatened them into remaining silent. The toddlers are kids of techies. "The nannies, in their statements, denied the allegations. However, they accepted that they shouted at the toddlers. They maintained that a two-year-old child, who could not sit on the western commode, was made to stand in the middle so that one nanny held him while another cleaned the child," a senior police officer said.

The cops inspected the premises and collected CCTV footage from the centre. "We're examining the complaint and the videos submitted as evidence. The joint commissioner of police (east) and the DCP in charge of Whitefield are at the location verifying the facts," he said.

A woman officer of deputy commissioner rank has been deputed to probe the case. "Both she and the joint commissioner (east) will look into the case," he said, adding that priority is to ensure perpetrators do not escape. "If anyone has supported them, or if this has been happening for a long time, all such acts will be brought to light. No one will be spared."

AI

PARENTS YET TO MAKE STATEMENTS

Police said they are yet to take statements from parents of the toddlers. "We requested two parents, whose children were seen in the video, to make statements. Since they had to work on Thursday, they told us they would come later," an officer said.

DID SACKED STAFFER MAKE VIDEOS?

Police sources privy to the investigation said the videos were recorded by an employee of the daycare centre. "She was fired from the job and was serving notice period. She recorded the videos on her mobile and shared them with a family member, who handed them in to the child helpline officer. One old CCTV clip shows a woman, resembling the terminated employee, threatening and locking a toddler inside a room. If proved, we'll book a case against her too," he said.

Companies urged to re-examine childcare centre safety standards

▸ Continued from page 1

The incident has reignited a larger debate on surveillance and safety standards in daycare centres. Centres caring for vulnerable children should have more stringent safeguards. One of the strongest concerns raised by parents was the vulnerability of infants and toddlers who are too young to communicate if something goes wrong. "If the child cannot speak yet, how can she or he express abuse," one parent asked.

Several commenters noted that parents often dismiss a young child's reluctance to return to daycare as routine separation anxiety or mood swings, making it difficult to recognise signs of distress.

The episode has intensified calls for companies to re-examine the safety standards governing workplace childcare centres. Parents and child rights advocates say employers can no longer treat daycare as merely an employee benefit but must ensure robust governance, including comprehensive background checks, third-party audits, surprise inspections, clear child-protection protocols and regular compliance reviews.

For many working parents, the incident has become a stark reminder that trust in a daycare is built on both safety and convenience. They say restoring confidence in workplace childcare will require far more than assurances — it will require demonstrable improvements in oversight, accountability and child protection.

K'taka to e-auction liquor licences by end of month

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The excise department will e-auction 483 CL-2A retail liquor shop licences and 96 CL-9A bar licences, with bidding to be held in the last week of July.

The move is part of a broader exercise to monetise unused licences and improve revenue collection. Officials said the system will bring in greater transparency in allotment through an electronic bidding process. The licences will be granted for a period of five excise years, from 2026-27 to 2030-31. Bengaluru Urban has the highest base price at Rs 1.5 crore per licence, followed by cities such as Belagavi, Ballari, Mysuru, Dharwad, and Hubballi at around Rs 1.1 crore.

The decision flows from the 2025-26 budget, in which the govt proposed e-auctioning unused liquor licences as part of efforts to boost additional resource mobilisation for the state exchequer.

The new notification also states that Rule 5 of Karnataka Excise (Sale of Indian & Foreign Liquors) Rules, 1968 has been amended to introduce reservation in the e-auction of CL-2A and CL-9A licences. Under the revised structure, 5.2% of licences each will be reserved for Scheduled Caste-A and Scheduled Caste-B categories, 4.5% for Scheduled Caste-C category, and 3% for Scheduled Tribe applicants.

Excise officials said the proposal is aimed at extending reservation principles to self-employment opportunities for marginalised communities, similar to the model followed in education and govt jobs. Several states, like AP and Telangana, have adopted similar approaches. A similar attempt in Karnataka many years ago had met with a legal challenge.

Bannerghatta Rd gets pothole patchwork

Vindhya.Pabolu
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: With monsoon underway, Bengaluru South City Corporation (BSCC) has launched another round of pothole patchwork on Bannerghatta Road, offering motorists temporary relief. Officials are once again asking commuters to bear with inconvenience, assuring them a permanent solution is in the works.

CYCLICAL PROBLEM

The civic body had carried out similar repairs on June 9 and 10 but has now returned for another round, underscoring the recurring nature of the problem. Officials said the repeated interventions are part of routine monsoon safety measures, while the larger white-topping project remains stuck at the tender stage.

A **TOI** visit found a mixed picture. The stretch from Fortis Hospital to Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore (IIMB) has been asphalted, improving ride quality in some sections. The latest repairs have also eased conditions at the notorious IIMB point, where traffic movement had become particularly difficult.

However, road conditions deteriorate beyond the institute, with uneven surfaces, craters and worn-out patches continuing to trouble commuters. At Arekere Junction too, several potholes remain, highlighting the incomplete nature of the repairs. Motorists said the road worsens soon after major junctions, making daily travel uncomfortable.

Bannerghatta Road has long been one of the city's most problematic corridors because of its heavy traffic load and poor surface condition. Despite repeated maintenance drives, commuters said the improvements are short-lived. Officials said the ongoing patchwork is intended to ensure immediate safety and smoother traffic during the monsoon. The long-term white-topping and full-scale reconstruction will begin only after the tendering process is completed and contracts are finalised under the B-Smile programme.

AS NEIGHBOURS DIG DEEP, BUILDING TILTS

Pics: Syed Asif

A 40-year-old building in Bakshi Garden, Cottonpet, tilted Thursday afternoon after excavation for the foundation of an adjacent building, triggering panic among residents. No casualties were reported. Fire and emergency service personnel rescued the lone first-floor occupant before the structure was demolished as a precaution. The building had a clinic on the ground floor, residence on the first, and sheet-roofed room on the second. Police said the demolition was carried out after the resident was shifted to safety.

Isro HQ gets hoax email bomb threat

Bengaluru: A bomb threat email sent to the department of space and Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) headquarters triggered a major security scare Thursday at Antariksh Bhavan on New BEL Road, north Bengaluru.

After officials received the email on Isro's official email ID claiming that explosives had been planted inside the premises, the staff were evacuated and a search operation was carried out by Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) bomb detection and disposal squad (BDDS) along with Sanjaynagar police. Cops later declared that the threat to be a hoax.

A senior police officer said the email bears similarities to the series of hoax bomb threats recently sent to the high court, other govt establishments and several schools across Bengaluru, indicating a possible pattern. Police are trying to trace the origin of the email and identify those responsible. TNN

ALMANAC (3.7.2026)

Mithuna Masa 18 Shri Parabhava Nama Samvatsara – Uttarayana – Greeshma Ritu - Tithi: Nija Jyeshtha Krishna Tritiya h. 11-21 Nakshatra: Sravana h. 11-47 Yoga: Viskumbha h. 17-00.
17 Muharram | Kali Day 18727549
Rahu Kalam 10.30am — Noon
— KL Vidya Shankara Somayaji

IISc study finds ultrasound can selectively hit oral cancer cells

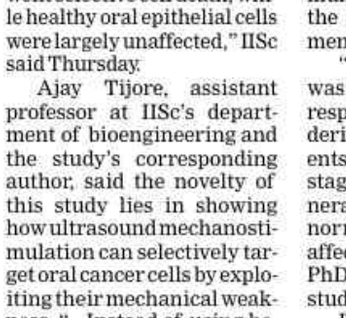
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have found that low-frequency ultrasound can selectively kill oral cancer cells while leaving healthy cells largely unharmed, raising the possibility of a less invasive treatment for one of India's most common cancers.

Oral cancer remains a major public health challenge in India, largely because of widespread tobacco and arecanut use. Although surgery, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy are the standard treatments, they often damage healthy tissue along with cancer cells, leading to significant side-effects.

In the new study, IISc researchers, working with clinicians from MS Ramaiah Medical College and Hospitals, tested low-frequency ultrasound on oral tumour samples obtained directly from patients. Using patient-derived samples allowed the team to better capture the diversity seen among Indian patients than conventional laboratory-grown cancer cell lines.

"The researchers found that oral cancer cells were highly vulnerable to the moderate mechanical forces generated by ultrasound. The study suggests this is because the cells have reduced levels of Tropomyosin 2.1, a protein that helps normal cells sense and withstand mechanical stress. When exposed to ultrasound, the cancer cells underwent selective cell death, while healthy oral epithelial cells were largely unaffected," IISc said Thursday.



Researchers at IISc show low-frequency ultrasound can selectively destroy oral cancer cells while sparing healthy tissue, opening the door to less invasive cancer treatment

Ajay Tijore, assistant professor at IISc's department of bioengineering and the study's corresponding author, said the novelty of this study lies in showing how ultrasound mechanostimulation can selectively target oral cancer cells by exploiting their mechanical weakness. "...Instead of using heat or drugs, this approach uses moderate mechanical forces to damage cancer cells beyond their ability to recover," he explained.

Reducing cell migration

The study found that ultrasound significantly reduced the ability of cancer cells to migrate and invade nearby tissue. Using a three-dimensional co-culture model that mimics the tumour environment, the researchers observed that ultrasound disrupted the dense protective barrier surrounding tumour cells. Such barriers often prevent medicines and immune cells from reaching the tumour, reducing treatment effectiveness.

"What surprised us most was the consistency of the response across cancer cells derived from multiple patients from different cancer stages. They were highly vulnerable to ultrasound, while normal cells were much less affected," Rashmita Luha, a PhD student at IISc and the study's first author, said.

Because ultrasound is already widely used in medicine and is non-invasive, the researchers believe the findings could pave the way for safer, more targeted therapies. They plan to test the approach in more advanced preclinical models and explore whether combining ultrasound with existing treatments can improve drug delivery and treatment outcomes. With further validation in advanced preclinical models, this approach may help develop safer, more targeted treatments for oral cancer and potentially other easily accessible cancers such as breast and skin cancers.

Officer caught taking bribe

Bengaluru: A district leprosy officer (DLO) was caught by Lokayukta police while accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000 from a doctor for approving a Karnataka Private Medical Establishments licence. Unani doctor Muffassir Ahmed Muzammil approached Lokayukta police against DLO Dr Bhujabali D Yalagudri, 54, accusing him of demanding Rs 30,000 for licence approval. TNN

Motorists' new nightmare comes with whiskers

Vindhya Pabolu &
Anush S | TNN

Bengaluru: It's not just traffic that is leaving the city's vehicle users frustrated. A growing rodent menace has become another major concern, with many vehicle owners heading to workshops after rats damage wiring harnesses and other critical components, particularly in cars.

The worst-affected are those parking their vehicles on garbage-strewn streets. Residents said they are making frequent trips to repair shops as the issue continues to worsen despite repeated complaints to civic authorities. SN Mishra, 54, a legal adviser, said: "The rat problem in Indiranagar area has become severe. Open drains and sewer lines seem to be providing a breeding ground for rodents. Recently, two of my cars, parked on the road, suffered extensive damage after rats chewed through the wiring. Mechanics told me the repair costs could exceed Rs 80,000, and the vehicles are still in the workshop. Despite trying sprays, metal guards and other preventive measures, nothing has worked. We've repeatedly complained to civic authorities, but the problem continues unabated."

Uma M, a resident of Jeevan Bima Nagar, said: "My vehicle has been affected twice recently, while my neighbour's scooter battery wires and car were also damaged, forcing us to tow the vehicles to service centres. The rodents have also dug up gardens and destroyed plants and pots. Civic authorities must act immediately to control the infestation."

Alexy F, from Hosa Road, said: "I've been observing a large number of rats emerging from drains at night. I usually park my bike on the road because my apartment does not have enough parking space. To prevent rats from climbing onto the vehicle, I place large stones around the bike. However, the fear of damage remains."

AI

WAYS TO AVOID RODENT DAMAGE

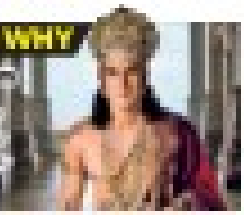
- Do not store food inside vehicle
- Avoid leaving vehicle unused for long periods
- Do not park near garbage dumps or rodent-infested blackspots
- Consider installing vibration-based rodent repellent devices

> In many cases, rodents chew through fuel pipes and electrical cables... There are a few preventive measures vehicle owners can try, such as installing vibration-based rodent-repellent devices with sensors or placing tobacco-based repellents near parked vehicles. Once rats damage the wiring, it is often difficult to fix because the entire wiring harness may need replacing
>
> **Stephen R** | MECHANIC

Garages that **TOI** spoke to said they receive at least four vehicles every day with similar complaints. Stephen R, a mechanic from Shivajinagar, said: "In many cases, rodents chew through fuel pipes and electrical cables, causing significant damage. There are a few preventive measures vehicle owners can try, such as installing vibration-based rodent repellent devices with sensors or placing tobacco-based repellents near parked vehicles. Once rats damage the wiring, it is often difficult to fix because the entire wiring harness may need to be replaced. More than the repair cost, the bigger concern is the impact on the vehicle's overall condition and reliability." Some local mechanics charge over Rs 1,000 depending on the soldering work.

Sudarshan Sahu, customer care manager at a car service company, said he sees at least one four-wheeler coming in daily with this issue. "For luxury cars, repairing damaged wiring can cost upwards of Rs 80,000. Most vehicles come in with damage to brake wiring or fuel pipes. Once such problems occur, they tend to recur. One common factor I've noticed is that many affected vehicles either have food stored inside them or remain unused for long periods. These days, there is a lot of marketing around rat-repellent sprays and similar products, but they may, at best, keep rats away for a week, as the smell does not last long."

WHAT'S #TRENDING AND WHY



Ramayana or AI? Viral 11-sec clip from Ranbir Kapoor's film sparks debate

Anne Hathaway responds to viral 'backwards outfit' buzz

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Wrong parking on highways: NHAI flags 20 spots in K'taka

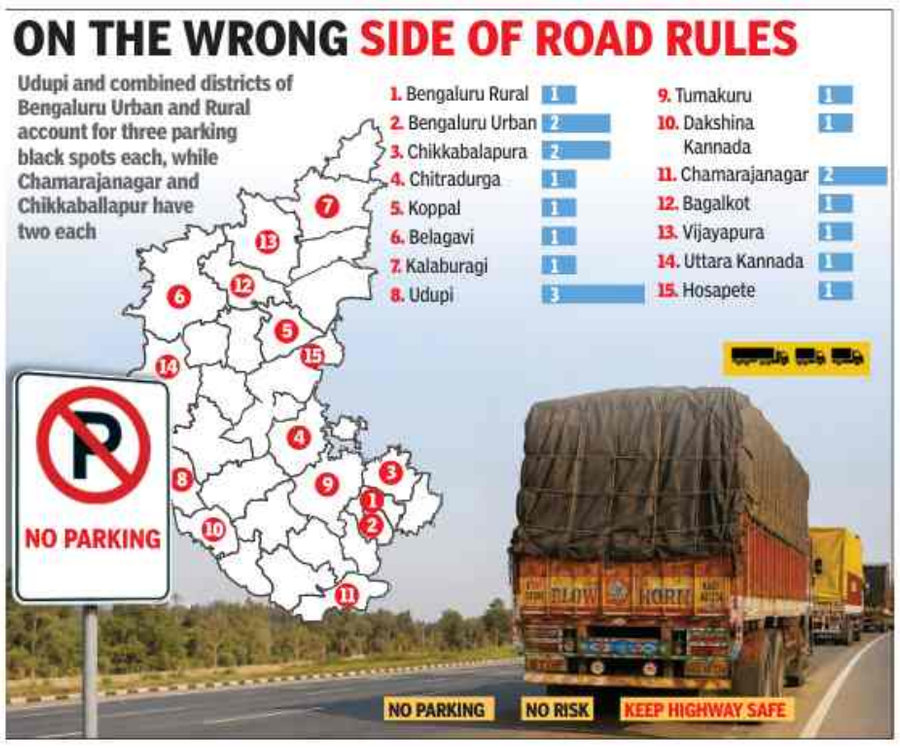
Field Offices Told To Audit Traffic Management System

Anush.S@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: In order to curb unauthorised parking on highways, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) identified 20 critical locations in Karnataka. These black spots were detected based on constant parking violations over a period of time.

The detection is part of a nationwide process in which 595 locations were identified. In Karnataka, three of these black spots are located in Bengaluru, followed by three spots in Udupi district and two each in Chikkaballapur and Chamarajanagar districts.

According to NHAI, parking in non-designated zones, roadside encroachments and unregulated activities along highways pose significant risks to road users and adversely impact traffic flow and safety. To address these challenges, it pinpointed latitude and longitude details of these locations. "We do not have any authority to enforce rules or collect fines, but we can work in close coordination with state govts, district administrations and enforcement agencies for removal of unauthorised parked vehicles from national highways," an NHAI official told **TOI**.



To ensure inter-agency coordination in enforcement, NHAI is in touch with state govt for the establishment of district highway safety task forces and to nominate nodal officers to monitor compliance.

NHAI directed its field offices to undertake immediate audits of all advanced traffic management system (ATMS) installations and ensure components such as traffic monitoring cameras, video incident detection systems, variable speed detection systems, variable message signboards and emergency call boxes are fully operational. "Deployment of ambulances and recovery vehicles, enhanced highway patrolling, integration of ATMS alerts with enforcement agencies enable faster incident response, improved enforcement and safer travel," the authority said.

IISc, IIT roped in to plan NH bridge designs

Times News Network

Bengaluru: In a bid to avoid design problems while constructing major bridges in national highways across the country, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has roped in two major institutions in the state.

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Dharwad are among the national institutions empanelled with the responsibility. In addition, 11 more IITs and several other public institutions have expressed willingness.

Through these institutions, NHAI plans to create a national framework for vetting designs of critical bridge projects. "The framework will help strengthen quality assurance practices and promote better design and execution of bridge projects', NHAI said.

These institutes will provide the authority reviews of structural design calculations, engineering drawings, construction methodologies, geotechnical investigations and hydraulic studies.

The initiative is aimed at ensuring major bridges, designed for a service life of 100 years or more, undergo rigorous independent technical review before construction, NHAI said.

Class 10 boy crushed to death in hydraulic lift at hardware store

Times News Network

Bengaluru: A man's decision to let his son learn computer skills during school holidays ended in heartbreak after the 15-year-old, who was forced into hazardous labour, died in a hydraulic lift accident at a hardware store. The father accused shopowners of employing the minor illegally and ignoring basic safety precautions.

HAZARDOUS WORK

Ameen Allabaksha Syed, a painter, told police his family recently moved to KG Halli from Mumbai. His son, Salman Khan, had completed class 9 exams in Mumbai and came to the city during school vacations.

As there was a delay in obtaining his school records to secure admission to class 10 at a Bengaluru school, Syed wanted him to learn computer-related work during the break.

Syed became acquainted with Noushad Ali, Mohammed Meenar and M Shafivulla, owners of Nellai Hardware Stores on Tannery Road. They agreed to teach Salman computer work. Trusting them, Syed left his son at the store on June 8.

However, instead of being trained in computer work, the boy was allegedly made to carry heavy 20-litre paint cans between floors using a hydraulic material lift. Syed told police Salman had informed him about the work and he had decided to stop him from going there once his school admission process was completed.

However, tragedy unfolded on June 28. Shafivulla called Syed around 12.40pm and asked him to rush to the store, informing him that his son was injured.

When Syed rushed to the shop, he found his son lying dead, with his head trapped in the lift.

According to witnesses, Salman was asked to transport paint cans from the ground to first floor. While using the hydraulic material lift, his hair allegedly became entangled in the machinery, causing him to fall, after which his head was crushed in the lift mechanism.

Syed alleged that the shopowners illegally employed his minor son in hazardous work, failed to provide adequate safety measures and allowed him to operate a hydraulic lift that was not functioning properly.

Police have registered a case against the hardware store owners under Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act and BNS Section 106 (causing death by negligence). The accused have been served notice, a senior police officer said.

Officials refused to provide info, HC told

▶ Continued from page 1

Some cases allegedly involved serious offences like unlawful assembly, rioting and destruction of public property.

The advocate, in his petition, submitted that he could get information on only one of the 52 cases to be withdrawn — Aland violence in Kalaburagi district — as the authorities refused to part with information under RTI claiming it was 'confidential in nature'.

The advocate argued that Supreme Court has consistently held that power to withdraw cases under Section 321 of Criminal Procedure Code is vested exclusively with the public prosecutor and no other authority, including state govt or cabinet, can direct or exercise such powers.

He was quoting from the top court's observation in Sheo Nandan Paswan vs State of Bihar case.

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FOND 11th YEAR REMEMBRANCE

SHRI. M. S. NAGENDRA
19-11-1953 - 03-07-2015
Former Executive Director, Bangalore Metro Rail Coporation
Your path to success was not easy, but you overcame all the hurdles and achieved it with your sheer determination, acumen, perseverance and sincerity. You will always be our guiding light to continue your legacy we are now blessed with. Though we miss you, our love and respect for you will be eternal.
Fondly Remembered by :
Smt. Shailaja Nagendra, Siddesh Nagendra, Sharan Nagendra
Smt. Meenakshi Paramashivappa, M.S.Nataraj, Hemanth
Ratheesh Nambiar and Family Members
Urban Space Projects Pvt. Ltd, Sridevi Enterprises, MSD Group, Nambiar Builders Pvt. Ltd.

FOND REMEMBRANCE OF

Ponnachanda Neeraj Kushalappa
It will be 3 years on July 3rd 2026 Since you parted with us forever,
Not a single day passes without remembering you, it looks as though the light is out of the house. It is so unfortunate that we loss our only son forever.
Our lives have become totally meaningless without you,
May god bless you wherever you are.
- Dada and Amma, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore.

SAD DEMISE

OBITUARY

Smt. SANDHYA BARAL
who left for her heavenly abode on June 26, 2026
Shradh Ceremony to be held on Monday, July 6, 2026 from 9AM - 11AM at Arya Samaj Mandir, CMH Road, Indiranagar, Bengaluru 560038
Deeply mourned by:
Sushobhan Baral (Son)
Ipsita Chakraborty (Daughter-In-Law)
Sameep Baral (Grandson)
and Family Members

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REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES

Remembrance
K V BHAT
03-July-2024
2 years have passed by but you are still with us in our thoughts, actions, dreams and daily dialogues. Missing you a lot!!. Pls do come in our dreams and meet us.
Ashok, Preethi, Amrhutha, Axatha, Abhayarama.

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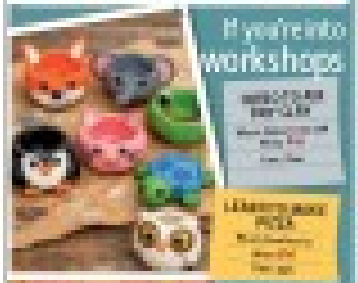
WALK, WATCH, WONDER

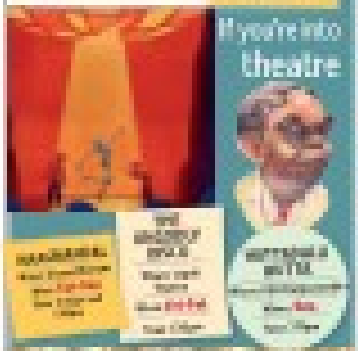
Gallery hopping is Bengaluru's next great weekend ritual

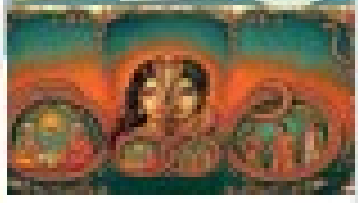
Put pen to paper: Rediscover the joy of handwritten letters

Bangalore Times Weekend Planner

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun







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Crooks exploit Jet Airways case, con woman of ₹20L

86-Yr-Old Falls For 90-Day Arrest Threat

Chaithanya.Swamy
@timesofindia.com

The fraudsters kept the victim on video calls overnight, convincing her that they were conducting an official virtual probe to help her

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Bengaluru: An 86-year-old woman was cheated of Rs 20.6 lakh by cyber fraudsters, who claimed she was linked to criminal cases associated with Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal and threatened her with a 90-day arrest in Mumbai.

The victim, former staff of Bangalore University's department of geography, filed the complaint later, stating the fraud began with a WhatsApp call around 6.30pm on June 21. The fraudster, impersonating an official from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), told her that a mobile number, registered in her name in Maharashtra, was used in making harassment calls and money laundering. They claimed a debit card of a bank account opened in her name was found in a money laundering case linked to Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal.

Random people spoke to her from different numbers and threatened her, claiming she would be detained in Mumbai for 90 days and that her call would be transferred to Colaba police station. Soon afterwards, she received another WhatsApp video call in which four individuals allegedly posed as police officers, a CBI officer and a judge.

The fraudsters kept the victim on video calls overnight, convincing her that they were conducting an official virtual investigation to help her. Under the pretext of verifying her identity and clearing her name in the case, they allegedly collected her personal details, bank information and identity documents.

They asked her to transfer the money to the bank accounts they provide, stating, as per RBI guidelines, they would verify and return the money to the same account.

As per their instructions, she transferred Rs 20.6 lakh to an account belonging to Desh Link Global Technologies Pvt Ltd in Mumbai the next day. The accused allegedly demanded additional money later that night. However, she became suspicious on June 23 and discussed the issue with her friends and neighbours. She learnt it was a cyber fraud, contacted cyber helpline 1930, and later, filed a complaint with south cybercrime police.

Newlywed from V'nagara found dead in Uganda

Times News Network

Vijayanagara: A 22-year-old woman from Kannanayakanakatte village in Kottur taluk was found dead at her residence in Kampala, Uganda, on June 27. Her body is expected to arrive in Bengaluru after completion of legalformalities.

The deceased was identified as Bindu H Ajjol, the only daughter of late A Halappa and Manjula. She had married Chandrashekhar Gutti on June 7, 2025. The couple later moved to Kampala after securing jobs with a private company and had been living there since July last year.

Bindu H Ajjol

Family members said Bindu spoke to her mother over the phone every day. On the day of the incident, she reportedly called her husband and asked him to return home for lunch. When he arrived, he found her hanging. She was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her dead.

Seer coordinates with embassy to bring back body

The incident prompted the intervention of Shivamurthy Shivacharya Swamiji of Taralabalu Peetha in Sirigere, who is currently visiting Germany. After learning about the tragedy, the seer coordinated with the Indian Embassy in Uganda and directed officials to expedite the formalities required for repatriating the body.

The postmortem and other legal formalities have been completed in Kampala. Bindu's body was scheduled to be flown from Uganda on an Emirates flight via Dubai on the night of July 1 and was expected to arrive in Bengaluru Thursday.

18-yr-old student confronts harassers, stabbed at home

Times News Network

Chikkaballapur: An 18-year-old engineering student was assaulted and stabbed inside her home at Chintamani town in Chikkaballapur, hours after she reportedly confronted two men for allegedly harassing her on the street.

The victim, S Meghana, a first-year engineering student and part-time dance teacher, is undergoing treatment for stab injuries to her neck and abdomen.

On June 30 at 4.30pm, Meghana was returning home on her scooter after dance class when two men called out to her on the way. She ignored them, suspecting they were strangers, and continued riding home.

Undeterred, the duo — Vinod and Karthik — blocked her path and allegedly tried to touch her inappropriately.

Meghana fought back in self-defence, slapping both the men before speeding away to safety at her residence in Ashraya Badavane, Chintamani town. The confrontation, however, took a violent turn later that night.

At 8.30pm, while Meghana was at home with her minor younger sister, Vinod and Karthik returned to take revenge. They did not come alone. The duo mobilised a mob of approximately 10 people, including female family members, and forcefully barged into Meghana's home. The group began vandalising the property, smashing windows and damaging household furniture.

According to the police complaint, the attackers assaulted Meghana and her younger sister. Karthik then drew a knife, stabbing Meghana in the stomach and neck. As she collapsed, Vinod repeatedly kicked her.

The assault was cut short only when Meghana's mother arrived at the scene, causing the attackers to panic and flee the premises. Neighbours helped transport the injured student to the hospital, where her condition is being monitored.

Accused's families file complaint

Chintamani Town police registered an FIR, detailing charges of physical assault, trespassing, rioting and voluntarily causing grievous hurt. A manhunt has been launched to apprehend Vinod, Karthik and other members of the mob involved in the violent retaliation.

"Family members of Vinod and Kartik have filed a counter-complaint against Meghana's mother, accusing her of hurling casteist abuses. Also, Meghana's mother threw chilli powder on the women and others, they claim," said Kushal Chouksey, superintendent of police, Chikkaballapur.

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Union Bank of India invites e-tenders from vendors for following items. **GeM Bid No - GEM/2026/B//7676109, Dated 22.06.2026; Item / Job Description - RFP for Supply, Installation and Maintenance of, Printers and Scanners Rate Contract. Date of tender publication - 22.06.2026; Pre-bid Meeting: 07.07.2026 11:00 hours; Bid End Date / Time - 22.07.2026 16:00 hours;** For other details and downloading of bid document, please visit Government e-Market Place (GeM) portal **https://gem.gov.in** for participation in the tender.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF PRINCIPAL JUDGE, FAMILY COURT, JAMSHEDPUR, EAST SINGHBHUM
Original Suit No: 668/2025
Shweta .....Applicant
Versus
Avinash Kumar
.....Respondent/O.P.
To,
Avinash Kumar,
S/o Late Krishna Prasad,
R/o: A201,VRR Nest Apartment, Konapanna Agrahara, Electronic City, Bangaluru, Karnataka Pin- 560100
Whereas the applicant Shweta has filed the case in this court U/s 13(1)(ia)(ib) of the Hindu Marriage Act and notice has been issued through the registered post as well as Nazarat but you have failed to appear before this court.
You are hereby directed to appear before this court **07.08.2026** at 10.30 to answer the same, failing which, the case shall be heard Ex-Parte in your absence in accordance with law.
Given under my hand and seal of this court 29th day of June, 2026.
By order of the Court
Seal & Sd/-
Anand Prakash
Principal Judge, Family Court, East Singhbhum, Jamshedpur

IN THE COURT OF VI ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL JUDGE, FAMILY COURT CHENNAI
O.P.NO.2765 OF 2025
Mrs.Nandini M W/o. Manikandan No.8/19, Venkatakrishna Road, Mandaveli, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai – 600 028 ..... Petitioner/Wife
VS
Mr. Manikandan
S/o. Mr. Chidambaram A.R
No. 19, 2nd Floor, Jana Jeeva Residency
4, S G Palya, 3rd Main, 3rd Cross, C V Raman Nagar,
Bengaluru – 560 093.
..... Respondent/ Husband
The aforesaid petitioner has filed a case against Mr.Manikandan FOR Restitution Of Conjugal Rights U/S.9 OF THE HINDU MARRIAGE ACT,1955.
Please take notice that in the above-mentioned O.P.NO.2765 OF 2025, the Hon'ble VI ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL JUDGE, FAMILY COURT CHENNAI, has Ordered Publication for your appearance on 21.07.2026. Please be present in the afore said Court on 21.07.2026 at 10.15 Am. failing which the case will be decided on your absence and you will set exparte. Dated at Chennai this 17th day of June 2026
Sd/-
Nandhini
Party in Person
P.P.Vikram
B.Revathy
Counsel for Petitioner

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Nirmala H S, wife of Shankar K, residing at 174, Royal Lake Front Residency, Phase 3, JP Nagar 9th Phase, Bengaluru — 560108, declare that Nirmala H S (as per Aadhaar) and Nirmala Shankar are the names of one and the same person, i.e., myself, as stated in the affidavit dated 24/06/2026 sworn before Notary G. Dayananda.

I, Arokia Priya K, W/o Ashok AR, #814, 6th cross, MC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore 560040 have changed my name to K Arockia Priya

I, Mani Meghala M W/o Manjunatha R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main, Hospalya, B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Mary Carmel instead of Mani Meghala M in Church Certificate. Henceforth, I shall be Known as Mani Meghala M For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, Manjunatha S/o Nanjaiah R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main, Hospalya, B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Melvin Manju instead of Manjunatha in Church Certificate. Henceforth, I shall be Known as Manjunatha For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, Kokila M, w/o Rajamanikyam R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main, Bandepalya B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Anthoniamma instead of Kokila M in Church Certificate .Henceforth, I shall be Known as Kokila M For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, Prakash S/o Vinayaka R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main,Bandepalya B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Velangani Anthony Prakash instead of Prakash in Church Certificate .Henceforth, I shall be Known as Prakash For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, Rani M W/o Mahesh Kumar M R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main, B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Amala Rani instead of Rani M in Church Certificate .Henceforth, I shall be Known as Rani M For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, SACHIN SMITHAN S/o Thomas M, R/o #15 DLF 3rd Cross Nynappanahalli Bengaluru 560076,I have changed my name from SACHIN SMITHAN to SACHIN SMITHAN T for all future purposes.

I, VIJAY ,S/ O;INDERVEER ,R/O: 202,2ND FLOOR, BOATMAN, SJR WATERMARK, HARLUR RD, AMBALIPURA, HSR LAYOUT, BLR - 560102. Have changed my name as VIJAY LOHCHAB.

I, Sahana Raj D/o Rajamanikyam R/o #19, 1st Cross, 12th Main, B'lore-68 .My Name is Mentioned as Immachlate Sahana Raj instead of Sahana Raj in Church Certificate .Henceforth, I shall be Known as Sahana Raj For all official Purposes vide Affidavit dt 24/6/26 Notary Jain Swarnamala Bangalore

I, ANTOINETTE MARY, residing at No. 35, Ground Floor, 11th Cross, R.S. Palya, Lingarajapura, Sadashiva Temple Road, Bangalore-560084, hereby declare that "ANTOINETTE MARY" and "ANTOINETTE MARY.M" refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself. The same has been notarized vide affidavit dated 02-07-2026 before Notary Y.R. Chandrasekar, Bangalore

LOST & FOUND

MY client, Smt. Shanthamma, W/o. Sri. Bettaiah and Sri. Bettaiah, S/o. Late. Thimmaiah, R/at #85, 5th cross, Srinivasapura Colony Kengeri Bangalore, have Lost page No.8 and 9 of Original Sale Deed Dated 15.12.2017, Document No. KEN-1-07480/2017-18, stored in CD No. KEND683, Book-I, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Kengeri, for Property bearing Site No.85, Situated at Ganakallu Village, Srinivasapura Colony, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, Finders Contact Devika Kumari.A., Advocate., No.1115, GF, 26th 'B' Main, 41st Cross, 9th Block Jayanagar, Bangalore-69. Ph: 9480620781

PUBLIC NOTICE – The Original Sale Deed bearing Document No. 19299/2005-06, dated 08.03.2006, registered at the Sub-Registrar Office, Anekal, has been lost/misplaced. A Lost Article Report has been lodged with the Karnataka Police E- Lost Report No. 2275137/2026 dated 26.06.2026. Anyone founds the said document is requested to contact the undersigned. Rajesh H R

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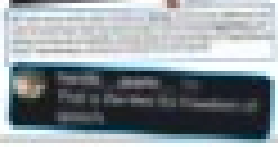

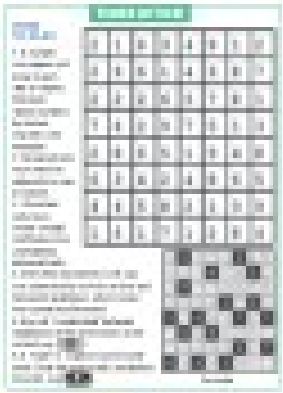

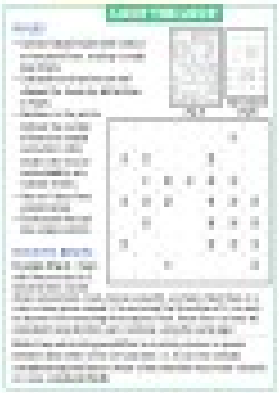

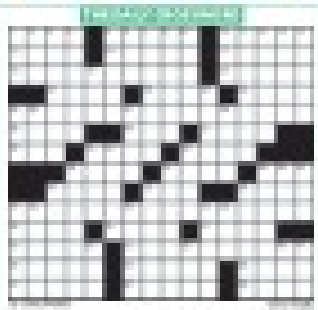

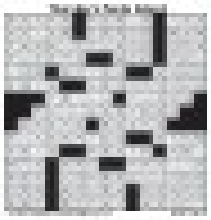

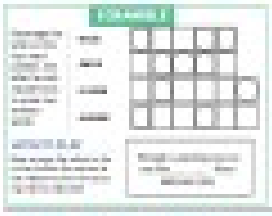

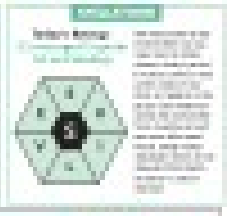

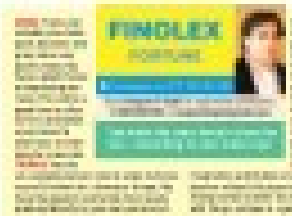

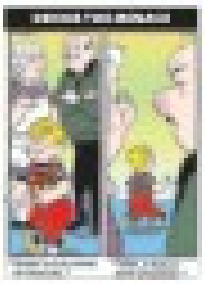

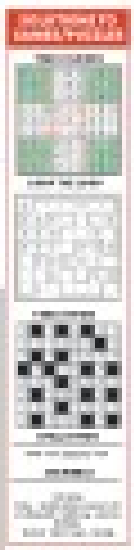

As severe drought looms, DKS urges farmers to delay sowing until it rains

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

IANS

SWORN-IN: CM DK Shivakumar and council chairman Basavaraj Horatti congratulate BK Hariprasad after he took oath as MLC Thursday

Bengaluru: With the monsoon deficit widening and the govt coming under opposition fire over drought preparedness, the cabinet Thursday decided to launch an emergency statewide drought assessment, with chief minister DK Shivakumar set to tour all four revenue divisions. His cabinet colleagues will also visit their in-charge districts to review the situation.

Briefing reporters after a four-hour cabinet meeting, Shivakumar said Karnataka was staring at a severe drought and urged farmers to postpone sowing until the situation improved.

CABINET MEET

"Drought is expected to be severe," he said. "Dams in the Krishna basin are seeing zero inflows and Cauvery basin reservoirs are witnessing less than 20%. I urge all farmers to consider not sowing crops for now. Once it starts raining then no one will stop you."

Shivakumar said the govt was preparing contingency measures, including drinking water and fodder for cattle, and said funds will not be a constraint. "I've asked ministers to tour two districts each, one adjacent to another, to assess the situation and even ensure digging of new borewells wherever required," he said.

Shivakumar said the Centre had already issued advisories on water conservation and drought preparedness and Karnataka was complying with them.

■Assembly session deferred

The cabinet decided to postpone the legislature's monsoon session, usually held in July, because of the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls. Shivakumar said the exercise required the involvement of MLAs and officials, making it difficult to convene the session this month. "We decided to postpone the legislature session to the second or third week of Aug," he said.

■No mass SIR drives

Amid allegations by BJP and JD(S) over SIR irregularities, Shivakumar warned legislators and officials against conducting mass distribution or collection of voter enumeration forms. "Every BLO must personally visit the house of the voter and hand over the enumeration form," he said. "If the person is unavailable the first time, then the BLO must personally visit two more times. As per law we cannot allow mass enumerations."

He said MLAs can print forms available on the Election Commission portal but cannot distribute them at wedding halls, convention centres or other public gatherings. "I have information that both Congress and BJP MLAs are holding such mass enumerations which are against the law," he said.

■OC, CC relief extended

The cabinet extended to Aug 15 the deadline for exemption from occupancy and completion certificates to obtain power and water connections for residential buildings up to 2,400sqft. "Many people have been seeking exemption, saying their houses are nearing completion," the CM said.

■Protest over VB-G Ram G

The cabinet decided to notify the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgaar and Ajeevika Mission (Grameen) while continuing its legal challenge against certain provisions. "We will issue the notification for the scheme tonight under protest," the CM said. He said the scheme would require Rs 3,806 crore.

■Global investors dept

The cabinet constituted a subcommittee headed by DCM G Parameshwara to prepare an action plan to set up a global investors department. "The report is expected to be tabled at the next cabinet meeting," Shivakumar said.

OTHER DECISIONS

- Phase I of the Kalaburagi textile park approved at Rs 320 crore with central assistance
- Rs 26 crore cleared for Phase 1B of NGEF Tree Park
- Common facilities centre approved at Aerospace Park in Devanahalli at Rs 30 crore
- Discount of up to Rs 20 lakh in KIADB lease-cum-sale land rates for persons with disabilities

SHORT TAKES

CM demands report on proposed bus fare hike

CM DK Shivakumar said he has sought detailed reports from the four state-run road transport corporations on their demand for a bus fare hike. "We must find a balance between ensuring RTCs survive and citizens are not burdened," Shivakumar said. He did not indicate whether the govt had taken any decision on revising bus fares, saying the matter would be considered after examining the reports submitted by the transport corporations.

Clearing footpaths on SC orders, says DKS

CM DK Shivakumar defended the demolition of encroachments on footpaths in Bengaluru, saying the drive was being carried out in compliance with Supreme Court directions. "The govt will not hurt the livelihoods of street vendors, but we must consider pedestrians' right of way," he said. "We will notify parcels of land nearby at every location as vending zones," he said. He rejected the opposition's criticism that the demolition drive was affecting the livelihoods of vendors, saying even opposition MLAs had wanted encroachments cleared.

Temple donations: Plaint against BJP legislator

Social activist Deepak Patil filed a complaint with Uttar Pradesh's special investigation team (SIT) against Prabhu Chavan, BJP Aurad MLA, alleging irregularities in donations collected for the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. Patil alleged Chavan, VHP functionary Gopalji and associate Satish Naubade, acquired benami properties after raising funds for the temple. The complaint comes amid an SIT probe into the alleged embezzlement of Ram Temple donations.

CM is directly influencing SIR, says Kumaraswamy

Bengaluru: Union minister and JD(S) state president HD Kumaraswamy Thursday alleged that, under the direct influence of chief minister DK Shivakumar, attempts were being made to create documents for thousands of bogus voters, including illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, during the ongoing SIR.

SIR AND YOU

He said the govt was attempting to completely derail the process and demanded the immediate suspension of the Bengaluru South DC for alleged irregularities in Ramanagara. The JD(S) legal cell also submitted a formal complaint to the Election Commission seeking an inquiry into the alleged violations.

Kumaraswamy alleged booth level officers, instead of carrying out mandatory door-to-door verification, were distributing enumeration forms at community halls. TNN

2025 electoral rolls for GBA polls?

Sandeep.Moudgal
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Bengaluru: Even while the contentious special intensive revision of electoral rolls is underway, Congress has begun preparations for the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) elections and is likely to favour the use of the 2025 rolls to meet the Supreme Court's Aug 31 deadline to complete the poll process.

The issue figured in discussions between KPCC president BK Hariprasad and CM DK Shivakumar during a meeting at the latter's residence late Wednesday. Party functionaries reviewed preparations for the elections, including campaign planning.

Congress functionaries believe the ongoing SIR exercise will not affect the voter list for the GBA polls, as the Election Commission is expected to release only the draft revised rolls in Aug.

The party is expected to argue that the Supreme Court's directive to complete the election process by Aug 31 leaves little scope to adopt electoral rolls emerging from the SIR exercise.

The party is also banking on the state Election Commission to use the latest available electoral rolls, which have already undergone the annual summary revision.

Congress is drawing up two separate manifestos for the civic polls. One is expected to focus on the IT and affluent neighbourhoods in the city's outer areas, while the other will address issues specific to the older areas of Bengaluru.

AG office accountant caught demanding ₹13,000 bribe

Bengaluru: Karnataka Lokayukta Thursday caught an accountant from the accountant general (AG) office while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 13,000 to process the release of court-deposited funds.

The accused official is Adarsha Kumar Singh, who works in the AG office on Park House Road near Ambedkar Veedhi.

Lokayukta said the complainant needed to secure the release of Rs 13.9 lakh that had been deposited with the principal senior civil judge court in Bengaluru Rural District in connection with a civil suit following a court order.

To clear the file and release the money, Singh allegedly demanded Rs 16,000. After negotiations, the deal was finalized at Rs 13,000. Refusing to pay the money, the complainant approached Lokayukta. A team laid a trap at the AG office. Singh was caught red-handed while accepting currency notes of Rs 13,000. TNN

Ease FAR limit & make it uniform across Karnataka, Credai urges govt

Vindhya.Pabolu@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Arguing that the city's planning regulations must keep pace with its rapid urban growth, Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (Credai) Bengaluru urged Karnataka govt to substantially increase Floor Area Ratio (FAR) proposed under the draft Uniform Zonal Regulations, saying the current limits could constrain housing supply as well as drive up home prices.

In a representation to the urban development department and Bengaluru Metropolitan Region Development Authority on June 22, Credai said draft regulations underestimate the city's infrastructure capacity.

It sought an increase in residential and commercial FAR from the proposed 2.25 to 3 for plots abutting 18-24 metre-wide roads (less than 80ft wide), and from 2.5 to 4 for sites facing roads wider than 24 metres (wider than 80ft).

Credai has also sought similar revisions for public and semi-public, transport and utility land-use categories.

The association contended that many growth corridors on Bengaluru's outskirts are already equipped with broader road networks, planned infrastructure and improved connectivity, making them suitable for higher-density development.

"Higher FAR allows more efficient utilisation of scarce urban land while supporting planned vertical growth," a Credai representative said, adding that increased density in well-serviced areas could reduce urban sprawl and bring residents closer to workplaces, educational institutions and healthcare facilities, cutting commute times and improving overall urban efficiency.

Credai asked the govt to adopt a uniform FAR framework across Karnataka. This would encourage investment in emerging cities such as Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi and Udupi.

It further proposed a single-window approval mechanism for real estate projects, arguing that streamlined clearances would reduce procedural delays, improve regulatory certainty and enable faster project delivery.

Assn says fire NOC delays still continue

Credai alleged that a state govt order issued on Sept 10, 2025 — delegating approval powers for fire safety NOCs for buildings below 21 metres to district-level fire officials — has not been effectively implemented.

It said developers continue to face delays in securing fire and emergency services clearances, slowing project approvals despite the decentralisation intended to expedite the process. It has sought strict enforcement of the order to improve ease of doing business. TNN

3 rowdies sentenced to life for killing auto driver over ₹2k loan

Bengaluru: A court in Bengaluru sentenced three rowdies to life imprisonment for the murder of an autorickshaw driver over an unreturned loan of Rs 2,000. Venkatesh, Puneet and Nagaraj — rowdies from KP Agrahara area — were found guilty of killing D Nagaraj in March 2016.

According to police records, Nagaraj borrowed Rs 2,000 from Venkatesh and tensions rose when Nagaraj failed to repay the amount. On March 20, 2016, the trio intercepted Nagaraj near his Magadi Road house. Armed with lethal weapons, the three hacked the auto driver to death. Nagaraj's father, Dhanashekhar, witnessed the horrific incident and alerted police. Neighbours too testified in court against the rowdies.

The prosecution's case was bolstered by their cohesive and unwavering statements, proving vital for police to build an airtight case, ultimately clinching their conviction in court. TNN

SPOTLIGHT

NPS Insights

What are different types of exit under Tier I of NPS?

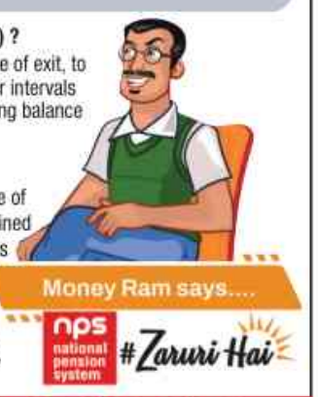
- Normal Exit:
  - After attaining 60 years of age (till 85 years of age), or after completion of the subscription period of 15 years (or a higher period) in a pension scheme, whichever is earlier.
  - Due to physical incapacitation or upon suffering bodily disability.
- Premature Exit: Before attaining 60 years of age or before completion of the subscription period of 15 years (or a higher period) in a pension scheme.
- Exit due to Death: On death of the subscriber or subscriber being declared missing and presumed dead.

What is Systematic Lumpsum Withdrawal (SLW) ?

SLW is a facility that allows a subscriber, at the time of exit, to withdraw a pre-determined fixed amount, at regular intervals from the accumulated pension wealth. The remaining balance continues to stay invested, earning returns.

What is Systematic Unit Redemption (SUR)?

SUR is a facility that allows a subscriber, at the time of exit, to withdraw funds by redeeming a pre-determined fixed number of investment units at regular intervals from the accumulated pension wealth. Since withdrawals are based on units, the actual payout may vary with the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV), while the remaining units continue to stay invested, earning returns.



Subscriber Education and Protection Fund (SEPF) Initiative, by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

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in
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by **15:00 hours** on **22/07/2026**
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by **17:00 hours** on **31/07/2026**
For details login to website **https://pesb.gov.in**

8.6 lakh forms distributed in three days

Bengaluru: Booth-level officers distributed over 8.6 lakh enumeration forms to voters across GBA limits in the first three days of SIR.

According to GBA, 8,65,118 forms were distributed between June 30 and July 2. Bengaluru Urban division accounted for 3,35,949 forms, followed by Central (1,88,928), North (1,81,458) and South (1,58,783). Each of these four divisions is headed by an additional district electoral officer. TNN

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NEAR KOPPA GATE	NEAR SINGASANDRA METRO	NEAR PRESTIGE TECH IT PARK	NEAR CHALLAGHATTA METRO	10 MINS. HOPEFARM METRO	OPP. NPS SCHOOL
₹97.30 L - 1.24 Cr*	₹91.27 L - 1.47 Cr*	₹92.70 L - 1.34 Cr*	₹83.51 L - 1.15 Cr*	₹92.47 L - 1.40 Cr*	₹1.45 - 2.17 Cr* (3 & 4-BHK)
8880 013 310 G+14	8880 013 310 G+14	8880 465 465 G+14	8880 461 461 G+14	8880 461 461 G+14	8880 461 461 G+3
HOSUR ROAD	**TUMKUR ROAD**	**SARJAPURA**	**MAGADI ROAD**	**HOSA ROAD**	**YELAHANKA**
PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/291225/008398	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/080923/006244	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/230125/008427	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/050526/008822	PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006972	PRM/KA/RERA/1250/301/PR/251024/007178
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₹72.36 L - 1.15 Cr*	₹81.43 L - 1.03 Cr*	₹60.01 - 91.57 Lakhs*	₹92.49 L - 1.23 Cr*	₹80.01 L - 1.44 Cr*	₹71.00 L - 1.12 Cr*
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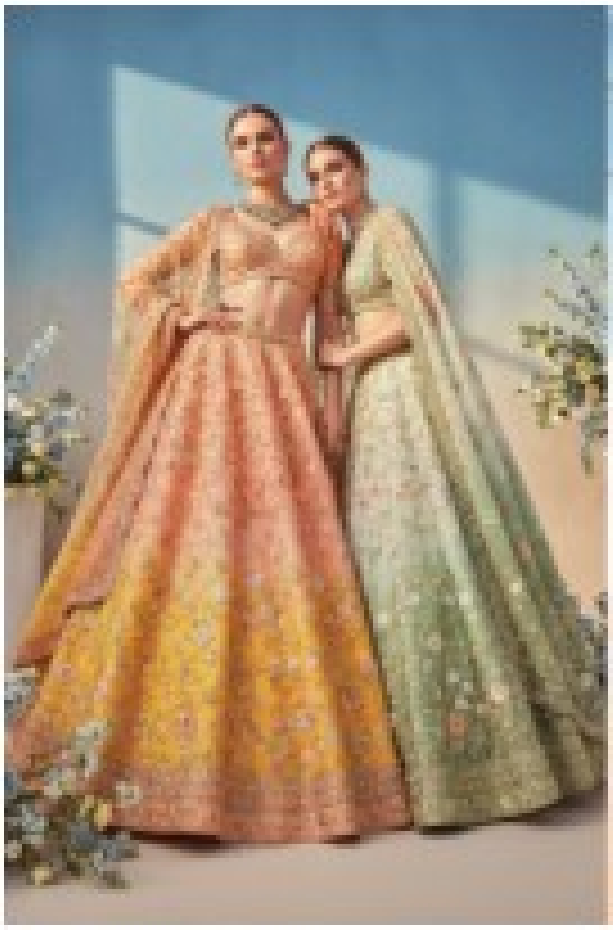

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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026

ASSAM CM HIMANTA BISWA SARMA, MINISTER RAJIV RANJAN PLAN TO TRANSFORM FISHERIES, DAIRY SECTORS

CONG NETA MEENAKSHI NATARAJAN ALLEGES THREAT TO DEMOCRACY IN COUNTRY; ASKS CITIZENS TO RAISE VOICE

HACK OF THE DAY — **HOW TO SPOT AI PHISHING ATTACKS**

WHAT IT SOLVES: Helps prevent password theft, fraud, and account takeovers from realistic AI scams

WHAT TO DO: Check pressure tactics and technical mismatches, not just spelling mistakes

STEPS:

1. Pause on urgent messages demanding identity checks
2. Inspect sender addresses for odd subdomains/characters
3. Preview links before tapping or opening them
4. Watch for generic greetings and surprise attachments
5. Verify requests through official apps or channels

NOTE: Scammers use AI for clean grammar and cloned family voices, so verify independently

SCAN FOR MORE HACKS

Tip from arghanshubose@timesinternet.in
Readers are advised to follow official websites & updated rules

SC quashes AI-generated judgment of NCLT, NCLAT

'Takes Away The Very Lifeblood Of Judicial Determination'

Amitanand.Choudhary
@timesofindia.com

> **The production of fake, non-existent, and hallucinated material and its utilisation as precedents in law, is like the release of methyl Isocyanate in the province of law and justice: invisible, insidious**
> **SUPREME COURT**

New Delhi: Supreme Court Thursday quashed orders passed by National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on the ground that they decided the case on the basis of artificial intelligence (AI) generated non-existent case laws and verdicts. A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe cautioned both the bar and the bench on use of AI. The court said the human element should be in the driving seat and should have "absolute and total control over the application and usage of AI" and not vice-versa with AI-driven decisions.

"For us, i.e., for those in the province of adjudication and determination of disputes, this by-product of AI, i.e., the production of fake, non-existent, and hallucinated material and its utilisation as precedents in law, is like the release of methyl isocyanate in the province of law and justice: invisible, insidious, and catastrophic by the time anyone notices. It not only contaminates but takes away the very lifeblood of judicial determination," Justice Narasimha, who penned the judgement for the bench, said. Methyl isocyanate or MIC was the gas that leaked from the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal in 1984 killing thousands in their sleep.

The bench said that the judiciary had always been forthcoming in adopting technology helpful in delivery of justice but highlighted that the story of AI, as it is unfolding, is, however, "different as it is not just an aid to assist us in work, but is an alternative to our own thinking, reasoning and even decision making. This is where we need to be extra cautious, as unregulated use of AI will insidiously enter legal practice, the process of judicial decision-making and decision-making itself".

The first instance of misuse of artificial intelligence in Supreme Court was detected in Dec last year when the court found that a litigant took the help of AI tools to draft a response that cited hundreds of fake cases.

The court directed the Bar Council of India to constitute a committee and deliberate on the problem of lawyer submitting such fake and hallucinated material before the Court as if they are precedents of law. It said if thinking is delegated and it forms a habit, it will have serious consequences for the core of human existence, which lies in its capacity to think – to discern the distinction between what is right and what is wrong, truth and falsehood, virtue and vice, dharma and adharma.

Username row: Govt widens its scrutiny to Telegram, Signal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after directing Meta to pause WhatsApp's proposed username feature, govt has widened its scrutiny of messaging platforms by issuing similar notices to Telegram and Signal over their existing username systems, asking them to explain how they prevent fraud and impersonation.

The IT ministry wants detailed responses from both platforms on the safeguards they have in place to prevent misuse of usernames for scams, phishing, digital arrest frauds and identity impersonation. Like WhatsApp, Telegram and Signal have been given three days to respond to the notice, sources said.

In Telegram's case, govt has gone a step further, asking why it should be allowed to continue offering the username feature.

The latest notices come a day after the Centre wrote to Meta, expressing concern that WhatsApp's proposed username feature could increase cybercrime by making it easier for bad actors to contact and deceive users without sharing phone numbers. The Centre also asked Meta to put the rollout on hold until consultations on the issue were completed "to the satisfaction of govt".

Officials said the IT ministry had sought details from Telegram and Signal on how they verify users, tackle impersonation and prevent abuse through usernames.

Telegram has already been under the govt's lens in recent weeks. Last month, India temporarily blocked Telegram and its associated web services until June 22, citing failure to curb circulation of leaked and fake NEET-UG papers, misleading content and other fraudulent activities linked to the medical entrance exam.

Lalu family vacates govt bungalow after 20yrs

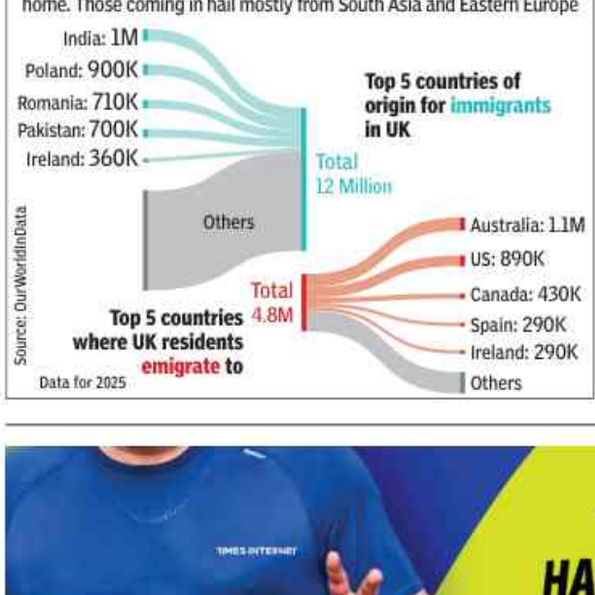
An outside view of the property in Patna

Former Bihar CM Rabri Devi and her family Thursday vacated the official bungalow at 10, Circular Road in Patna, drawing curtains on 20 years at a residence that doubled as RJD's political nerve centre, reports Manoj Chaurasia. First came down RJD's iconic lantern, its election symbol. Family members followed, and Lalu Prasad's 1977-model Mahindra Marshal rolled out by evening. RJD workers posted outside after the family gave up its govt security also dispersed. RJD functionaries said the family shifted to a bungalow under construction at Kautilya Nagar. Although Rabri was allotted an address — 39, Hardinge Road — as leader of the opposition in Bihar legislative council, she chose not to go there. The property has now been allotted to animal and fisheries resources minister Nand Kishore Ram.

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

UK takes in 2.5x more people than it sends out

For every Briton who packs up and leaves — mainly for Australia and North America — about a couple of immigrants arrive to make UK their home. Those coming in hail mostly from South Asia and Eastern Europe



'Mango, Stick & Flower': WA codes expose pan-India ganja network

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: What appeared to be harmless references to "Mango", "Stick" and "Flower" in WhatsApp chats turned out to be coded orders for ganja, exposing a sophisticated pan-India drug distribution network that allegedly exploited gaps in cargo and postal screening systems for nearly four years.

The bust by the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW) revealed how narcotics were shipped across the country through Speed Post, trains and even air cargo, reaching customers in at least 21 states.

Police estimate the syndicate's annual turnover at around Rs 5 crore. The gang, comprising five men, is believed to have built a substantial customer base, including more than 1,000 regular customers in Mumbai alone.

Revealing details of the operation on Thursday, Hyderabad police commissioner VC Sajjanar said the network, allegedly run by five men from Jharkhand, exposed serious shortcomings in scrutiny mechanisms at India Post, airports and railway transport services.

The accused were identified as Satyam Misra, Shubham Misra, Rahul Jha, Sachin Misra and Santosh Pandit. According to investigators, the gang supplied ganja nationwide using India Post and railway networks. "We are writing to both agencies to inform them about the way ganja supply has slipped their surveillance over the last four years," Sajjanar said.

Mehbooba flies to Iran on invite for Khamenei funeral

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Mehbooba Mufti is the only non-Shia politician from J&K and Ladakh invited by Iran for Ali Khamenei's funeral

TOI

Srinagar: People's Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti flew from New Delhi to Tehran on Thursday evening to attend funeral ceremonies of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei from July 4, becoming the only non-Shia politician from J&K and Ladakh invited by Iran.

PDP representative Waheed Parra said Tehran had arranged a special aircraft for the former J&K CM and other guests as commercial flights to Iran remain suspended.

Among others invited are National Conference MP Aga Ruhullah Mehdi, Peoples Conference representative and All Jammu and Kashmir Shia Association president Imran Reza Ansari, Shia religious functionaries Aga Syed Hassan Al-Mousawi Al-Safavi, Ladakh MP Mohmad Haneefa, Ladakh Congress president Asgar Ali Karabali and Kargil Democratic Alliance functionary Sajjad Kargili. Several invitees stayed back, including NC MP Ruhullah and Ladakh politicians. MP Haneefa said he, Kargili and Karbali decided not to go because of the next round of talks between Ladakh functionaries and Union home ministry in Leh on Friday.

Khamenei will be accorded a delayed state funeral across Iran and Iraq before his burial in his birthplace of Mashhad on July 9.

Woman dies after pre-delivery jab at govt hospital, another critical

George Mendonca

Navi Mumbai: The family of a 23-year-old pregnant woman has alleged negligence at Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation's (NMMC) Rajmata Jijau Hospital, Airoli, after she and her unborn child died due to complications she developed after getting a standard pre-delivery injection on July 1.

Sonam Dongre, who was eight months pregnant, wasn't the only critical case at the Airoli hospital on that day. Another eight-month pregnant woman, Richa Mishra, was administered two pre-delivery injections before becoming so critical that she was shifted to Fortis Hospital, Vashi, for ventilatory support.

After sit-in protests by MNS, NCP (SP) and Shiv Sena in the cabin of NMMC commissioner Dr Kailas Shinde, NMMC on Thursday announced that the gynaecologist at its Airoli hospital was suspended and an inquiry, including doctors from state-run JJ Hospital, was instituted.

Ignored in organisational rejig: Tewari

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after Congress appointed various panels in the Punjab unit for the forthcoming state elections, Congress MP **Manish Tewari** said he was ignored in the organisational rejig because of "insecurities of individuals and institutions".

Tewari posted on X, "If a person is talented, then society and people usually pick a fault in him. Wish I had an antidote for the insecurities of individuals and institutions."

He, however, added the party has given him enough over the last 45 years. "Que sera, sera (Whatever will be, will be)," he said.

Congress on Wednesday stuck to the status quo of PCC chief Amarinder Raja Warring and LoP Partap Singh Bajwa, but appointed dalit leader and former CM Charanjit Singh Channi as chairman of the party's Campaign Committee.

Bill recognising women farmers passed in Maha

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@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Lakhs of women toiling in the agriculture sector in the state are seen as labourers and not farmers because the land on which they work is not in their name, but in the name of male relatives. On Thursday, the state assembly passed Maharashtra Women Farmers Empowerment Bill 2026, aimed at recognising women who are engaged in agriculture and allied activities as farmers irrespective of whether they own land.

The Bill seeks to correct the historic exclusion of women farmers from credit welfare schemes which are available to land-owning farmers. "The requirement of land ownership as a pre-condition for benefits had rendered these inaccessible to many women farmers since only a small percentage own land," the Bill states. The Bill provides for a Woman Farmer Certificate which will give them access to entitlements, benefits, subsidies, services, loans and markets. "This is the first such Bill in the country. Other states will soon follow our example," said state agriculture minister Dattatreya Bharne. The Bill is the biggest initiative for women in the state after the Ladki Bahin scheme introduced in 2024.

AI nabs 15 fake candidates on UP teacher test

Kapil.Dixit@timesofindia.com

Prayagraj: AI-powered surveillance helped authorities catch 15 impersonators on the first day of Uttar Pradesh Teacher Eligibility Test (UPTET) on Thursday at 955 exam centres across the state.

The fake candidates — seven in the first shift and eight in the second — were detected through AI-enabled monitoring from UP Education Service Selection Commission's integrated control command room in Prayagraj, where chairman Dr Prashant Kumar and other officials supervised the exam.

The accused were handed over to the local police for legal action, officials said.

Research finds India's ancient wheat varieties may survive climate change

Sandeep.Rai@timesofindia.com

Scientists dig into India's old wheat seeds to find 'weapons against climate change'

TOI

Meerut: In one of India's largest wheat research efforts, scientists claimed to have unlocked genetic secrets in traditional varieties that could shield the crop from climate change. The research found that seeds preserved from decades ago—some collected from remote villages while others gathered from gene banks around the world, and a few passed on through generations—carry traits that could help crops survive hotter, drier and more disease-prone years ahead.

The six-year-old study, led by Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBPGR), and supported by the department of biotechnology, pulled together more than 7,000 wheat samples.

Instead of testing these seeds at one place, the researchers planted them across 20 locations spanning major wheat belts. It was then watched closely for how each sample handled disease, heat, drought and salty soil. For instance, Kashmir fields were chosen for cold tolerance, Ludhiana for heat tolerance, Wellington in Tamil Nadu for stem rust etc.

The results surprised even the scientists.

"Nearly 770 samples resisted stem rust, a fungal disease that wiped out entire harvests in the past. Hundreds more stood strong against leaf rust, stripe rust and spot blotch. Some samples even fought off multiple diseases at once while also tolerating drought, heat and salt-laden soil, all in a single germplasm line. That kind of multi-tasking resilience is rare and valuable," said GP Singh, who was the project's coordinator till Feb this year, and is the vice chancellor of ANDUAT (Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology), Ayodhya.

Beyond toughness, the seeds also turned out to be nutritional powerhouses. Some contained unusually high levels of iron, zinc and protein — nutrients India badly needs more of, given the common deficiencies.

The most promising seeds haven't stayed in the lab. They have already been sent to 35 centres across the country as part of the National Genetic Stock Nursery, where scientists are testing them under real farming conditions — a crucial step before these traits reach the wheat in Indian farmers' fields and on the plates in India's kitchens.

We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust the sails - Dolly Parton

Hanumankind joins Tobe Nwigwe's upcoming album

H

The Shelbys are coming to London with a brand new Peaky Blinders experience

D

India's heart lies in its villages, and the development of villages is integral to the nation's progress. The Swamitva Yojana and land reforms will serve as the foundation pillars for rural development. The Swamitva Yojana is a significant step towards realizing the vision of Gram Swaraj (village self-governance) as envisioned by Mahatma Gandhi.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

MADHYA PRADESH LEADS IN SVAMITVA

Government of Madhya Pradesh

By securing legal ownership rights for rural citizens, Madhya Pradesh has set a new benchmark in land governance and empowerment. Through the Ownership Rights Records Execution and Registration Scheme–2026, the state is turning property ownership into a pathway for financial inclusion and economic growth

A NEW CHAPTER IN RURAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

For generations, land has been one of the most valuable assets for rural families, yet clear and legally recognised ownership has often remained a challenge. Madhya Pradesh is now taking a decisive step to change that through the Ownership Rights Records Execution and Registration Scheme–2026, a landmark initiative that aims to provide legal certainty, financial security and economic opportunity to millions of rural citizens.

Under the leadership of chief minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, the state has approved a comprehensive framework that will grant legally valid ownership rights records to eligible rural property holders. By removing the financial barriers often associated with property registration, the government has sought to ensure that citizens can secure ownership without additional burden, making the process more accessible and inclusive.

FROM DOCUMENTATION TO EMPOWERMENT

The initiative builds upon the significant progress achieved under the SVAMITVA Scheme, which has transformed the way rural properties are surveyed and documented. Through advanced drone-based mapping and digital technologies, a reliable database of rural properties has been created, bringing greater clarity and transparency to land ownership records.

This transformation goes beyond administrative reform. Secure ownership rights provide families with confidence in their assets and strengthen their ability to plan for the future. By creating legally recognised property records, the state is helping citizens establish stronger economic foundations while reducing uncertainties that have historically led to disputes and complications.

UNLOCKING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

One of the most significant outcomes of the initiative is its potential to improve access to formal finance. With authenticated ownership records, rural citizens can more easily approach banks and financial institutions for loans to build homes, invest in agriculture, start businesses or meet other productive needs.

For many families, land is their most valuable asset. Formal recognition of ownership enhances the value and utility of that asset, creating new opportunities for financial inclusion and economic advancement. The initiative therefore links property rights directly with livelihood opportunities and rural prosperity.

TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN GOVERNANCE

The programme also reflects Madhya Pradesh's broader commitment to modern, technology-enabled governance. Digital mapping, accurate surveys and authenticated ownership records are helping create a more transparent land administration system. These measures are expected to reduce disputes, improve record management and simplify future property-related transactions.

Pradesh's broader commitment to modern, technology-enabled governance. Digital mapping, accurate surveys and authenticated ownership records are helping create a more transparent land administration system. These measures are expected to reduce disputes, improve record management and simplify future property-related transactions.

BUILDING A STRONGER RURAL FUTURE

Madhya Pradesh has already emerged as one of the country's leading performers in the implementation of the SVAMITVA Scheme. The newly approved execution and registration framework represents the next stage of that journey, ensuring that survey and mapping efforts translate into legally enforceable ownership rights.

More than a land-records initiative, the scheme is a step towards greater financial inclusion, stronger rural economies and citizen empowerment. By securing ownership rights and strengthening legal protections, the state is laying the foundation for a future in which rural families can participate more confidently in economic growth and development.

FROM LAND RECORDS TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

OWNERSHIP RIGHTS TO UNLOCK FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN RURAL MADHYA PRADESH

For many rural families, land is their most valuable asset. Yet without legally recognised ownership documents, that asset often remains underutilised and difficult to leverage for financial growth. The Ownership Rights Records Execution and Registration Scheme seeks to change this by converting property ownership into a gateway for economic empowerment.

Under the initiative, registered ownership records will provide legal recognition to rural properties, enabling citizens to access formal financial services with greater ease. Ownership documents can help families obtain loans from banks and financial institutions for house construction, agricultural investments, small businesses and other productive activities.

The scheme is expected to reduce dependence on informal sources of credit and strengthen financial inclusion across rural areas. With authenticated ownership records in place, financial institutions will be able to assess property value more accurately, improving confidence in lending and making credit more accessible.

Beyond individual households, easier access to institutional finance has the potential to stimulate local economic activity, encourage entrepreneurship and support livelihood generation. By providing citizens with legally recognised ownership rights, Madhya Pradesh is not only strengthening land security but also creating new pathways for economic advancement and rural prosperity.

Technology has become a key driver of Madhya Pradesh's efforts to strengthen rural property rights. At the heart of the initiative is the use of advanced drone-based surveys and digital mapping, which are helping create accurate and transparent ownership records across villages.

Traditional land records often faced challenges related to unclear boundaries, outdated information and ownership disputes. Through high-resolution aerial surveys, properties can now be mapped with greater precision, ensuring that ownership records are based on verified and scientifically generated data.

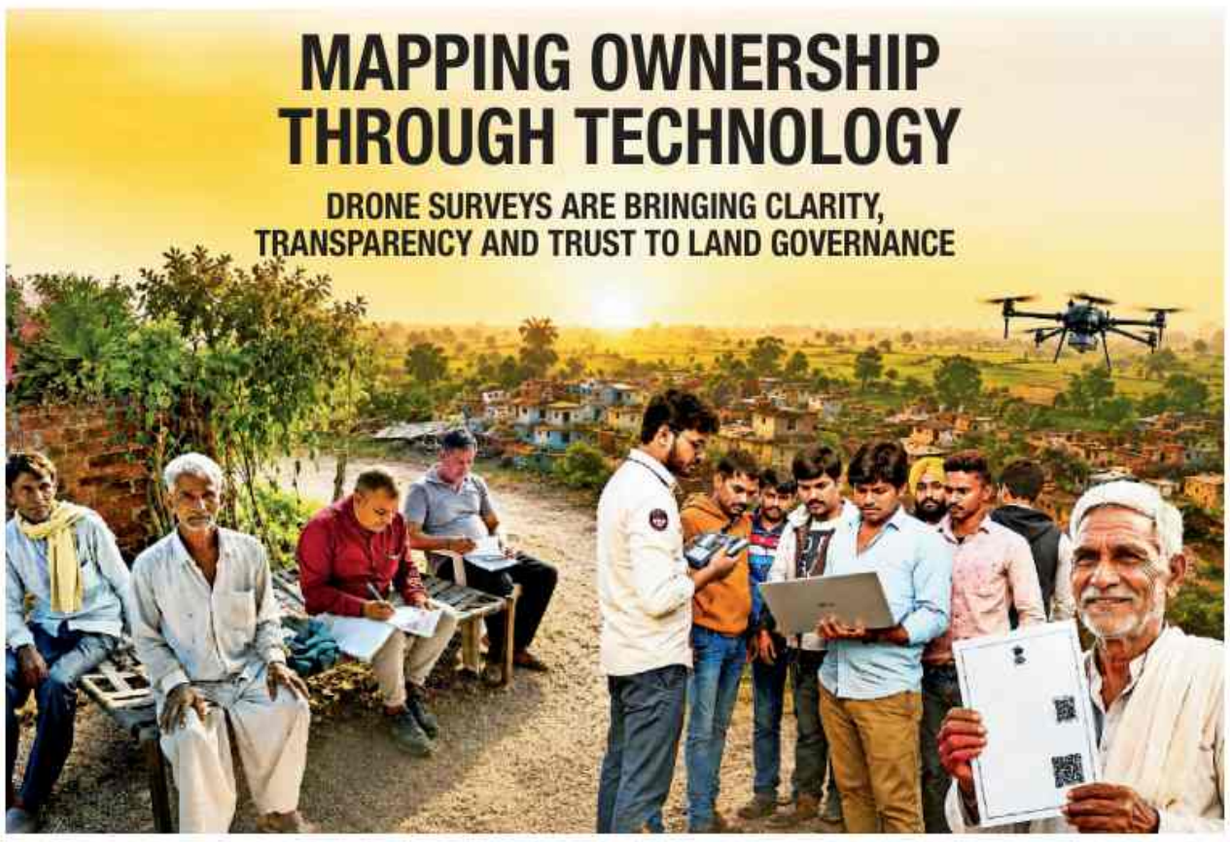
The digital mapping process enables clear identification of property boundaries while creating records that are easy to verify and maintain. This not only improves transparency but also reduces the likelihood of future disputes, benefiting both citizens and local administrations.

The use of technology also supports faster service delivery and more efficient record management. As ownership records become digitally documented and legally authenticated, citizens gain stronger protection over their assets while government agencies benefit from a more reliable land administration system.

By combining modern technology with citizen-centric governance, Madhya Pradesh is demonstrating how innovation can strengthen property rights, improve transparency and build greater trust in public institutions.

MAPPING OWNERSHIP THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

DRONE SURVEYS ARE BRINGING CLARITY, TRANSPARENCY AND TRUST TO LAND GOVERNANCE



NO COST TO CITIZENS

MADHYA PRADESH REMOVES FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

One of the most significant features of Madhya Pradesh's Ownership Rights Records Execution and Registration Scheme–2026 is its commitment to ensuring that rural citizens receive legally recognised ownership rights without bearing any financial burden. In a landmark decision, the state government has completely waived stamp duty and registration fees on ownership rights records issued under the scheme, making the process accessible to every eligible beneficiary.

Traditionally, the registration of property-related documents involves expenses that can discourage citizens from completing the process. By removing these costs, the government has ensured that financial constraints do not become an obstacle to securing legal ownership. Beneficiaries will not be required to pay any fee at the time of registration, allowing them to obtain authenticated ownership documents without additional expenditure.

The state has undertaken the responsibility of bearing the entire cost of implementation, estimated at approximately ₹3,800 crore. This reflects a strong commitment to citizen welfare and inclusive development, particularly in rural areas where secure property ownership can have a transformative impact on families and communities.

Beyond easing the registration process, the decision also highlights the government's broader objective of bringing every eligible rural property holder into the formal ownership framework. By removing procedural and financial hurdles, the scheme encourages wider participation and accelerates the creation of a transparent and legally robust land governance system.

Through this citizen-centric approach, the state is laying the groundwork for stronger rural economies, greater financial inclusion and a more secure future for millions of families across Madhya Pradesh.

CREATING FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Registered ownership records will provide legal recognition to rural properties and enable citizens to access institutional finance more easily.

MISSION MODE IMPLEMENTATION

A dedicated statewide campaign will be undertaken to ensure that all remaining eligible beneficiaries receive ownership rights records within a defined timeframe.

- Faster registration
- Citizen convenience
- Simplified procedures
- Last-mile coverage
- Time-bound implementation

STRONG MONITORING FRAMEWORK

A high-level committee has been constituted to guide implementation, review progress and ensure effective coordination across departments.

The committee will oversee:

AWARENESS AND OUTREACH

A dedicated awareness campaign will ensure that citizens understand the benefits of ownership rights and the registration process.

Activities will include:

- Public information campaigns
- Village-level outreach
- Awareness materials and publications
- Citizen guidance and support

ACCESS TO CREDIT AND RURAL PROSPERITY

Ownership records are already helping citizens access formal financial services.

- Improved confidence among lending institutions
- Easier property valuation
- Faster access to institutional credit
- Support for economic and livelihood activities
- Greater financial inclusion in rural areas

D-19083/26

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

bigbasket TIMES

bigbasket

A TATA Enterprise

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July 01-09

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ED goes for large-scale settlement of FEMA cases

RBI Approval Helps Probe Agency End Proceedings

Pradeep.Thakur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Faced with a pile of cases under the foreign exchange management act (FEMA), and eager to avoid legal battles that can go on forever, the Enforcement Directorate is settling for large-scale compounding of offences and termination of adjudicating proceedings against accused entities after taking Reserve Bank of India's approval.

In the past 15 months, more than 150 FEMA cases have been terminated by the RBI on the basis of "no-objection certificates" (NOC) issued by ED.

Many of these cases were pending for years with show cause penalty orders of hundreds of crores issued against them. One of the cases terminated last month was against Apollo Hospitals and its directors — involving alleged foreign investment related FEMA violations for around Rs 850 crore. The hospital paid a penalty of over Rs 17 crore and its directors Rs 18 lakh each after which the RBI terminated all adjudication proceedings under FEMA against the company.

Since Jan this year, the RBI has compounded 45 such FEMA cases, based on NoC issued by the ED. Flipkart subsidiary Myntra paid Rs 2.8 lakh to settle a long-pending case it . The case was related to delay on Myntra in submitting an annual performance report to the RBI with regards to over Rs 45 crore transaction, including investments.

Kakinada Seaports Ltd made one-time payment of Rs 21.7 lakh for compounding of offences, while FEMA proceedings were terminated against Genpact India Pvt Ltd on payment of Rs 4.7 lakh. Similarly, Darshan Kirtibhai Shah and many others who were accused of FEMA violations involving smaller amounts, got the cases closed by paying minor penalties.

In all such pending FEMA cases, an accused has to file an application before the RBI for compounding of offences. All such offences are terminated following a NOC from ED and upon payment of a penalty amount agreed upon.

CAG to carry out 'performance audits' of central sector schemes under edu ministry

The CAG will in future carry out "performance audits" of the central sector schemes under the ministry of education. The assurance came from the top audit body after the public accounts committee of Parliament questioned the absence of "performance audits" of CSS over the last nine years. The issue was raised by PAC chairman K C Venugopal and supported by members across party lines. The CAG cited technical reasons to argue that it does audits on finances and complaints on CSS, but not performance audits. That education is a "state subject" was also cited as a reason. But BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi is said to have objected to the statement, saying that most CSS have a 60% central funding, which warrants a performance audit. She said education being in "concurrent list" cannot be the excuse. BJP MP Ashok Chavan argued on the same lines. TNN

J'khand HC: Bhang not prohibited under NDPS Act

Chandrajit Mukherjee | TNN

Ranchi: 'Bhang' is not categorised in the schedule of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and, therefore, does not carry any punishment under NDPS Act, Jharkhand HC said as it cancelled a conviction order for possession of the substance.

Hearing an appeal filed by one Sunil Singh, who was convicted by a special court in Jamshedpur and ordered to undergo seven years of rigorous imprisonment under the Act, Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava said bhang could not be compared with 'ganja (marijuana)' — categorised in the Act as a narcotic drugs and psychotropic substance. HC also observed there was no scientific proof to show Singh was in possession of ganja. Singh was arrested on Sept 17, 2000, from Chaibasa bus stand. He was convicted on July 3, 2009, but was allowed to be released on bail by HC.

Citizens have freedom to express opinion: HC

▸ Continued from page 1

The prosecutor mentioned the slogans raised by him. The judge then referred to the FIR and exhibits presented against Chaudhary and said the petitioner "just raised slogans like 'BJP Govt murdabad'...'Amit Shah murdabad'. Can't citizens raise such slogans?"

"What is this? Are all citizens being made slaves of Indian Govt... can they not stage protests, or agitate – what is all this?," said Justice Jamdar.

In his order, the single-judge bench said, "The petitioner acting in his capacity has arranged morchas and dharnas against certain decisions taken by the Government of India. That cannot be a ground for a person to be externed under the Maharashtra Police Act. The action taken is mala fide."

Chaudhary, 49, had organised protests against amendments to the Citizenship Act and on the Gyanvapi Masjid issue among other decisions involving the Centre.

The HC order said, "As per the Articles 19 and 21 of the Constitution of India not only citizens have the freedom to express their opinion but also to live with dignity. The action taken by the respondents against the petitioner for merely opposing certain decisions of the Government of India affects his fundamental rights."

The judge said that it was the right of the citizen to raise his voice on issues of public interest.

25001/613/2627

E.Mail - serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR**

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

BID IDENTIFICATION NO. Road TENDER ONLINE RWCSBP-13/2026-27

1. Name of the Work : Road Works
2. Total No. of works : 57 nos Road work
3. Estimated cost : Rs.100.40 lakhs to Rs. 743.33 lakhs
4. Class of contractor : 'B', 'A' & 'Spl.'
5. Other details : As mentioned in DTCN

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To
1	2	3	4
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.	ROAD TENDER ONLINE RWCSBP-13/2026-27	06.07.2026 11.00 A.M	24.07.2026 05.00 P.M

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/-
**Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur**
OIPR-25001/25091/1/26-27/0018

25001/612/2627

By E_Mail/e-Despatch
E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in
Ph-No-06782/260318
Balia, Balasore

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE**

"e" Procurement Notice for Bridge Work

**Identification No.- Online Tender- Bridge NCB No. 07 of 2026-27
Letter No. 2828 / WE Date. 25/06/2026**

1. Name of the work : Bridge works.
2. Total No. of work : As per annexure
3. Estimated Cost : As per annexure
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per annexure
5. Period of Completion : As per annexure)
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Balasore Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore	NCB No.- 07 of 2026-27	06.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M	23.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	22.07.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	24.07.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- **Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
**Er. Durjyodhan Behera
Chief Construction Engineer,
R.W. Circle, Balasore**
OIPR-25001/25105/1/26-27/0010

25001/629/2627

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR**
(At/Po- Ambapua, Near Income Tax office, Berhampur-760011, Ganjam, Odisha)

(E-Mail :- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel No. :- 0680-2404287)

E-Mail / E-despatch

No. e-tender // 4520 // RWC// BAM // Dated. 02.07.26

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Online Tender/08-2026-27/BPR

1) The partial modification of Road works under **MUKHYA MANTRI SADAK YOJANA (MMSY) for the year 2027-27** vide above identification has been made as follows.

1	Date of availability of tender	:	**20.07.2026 to 03.08.2026 upto 5.30 PM** instead of 25.06.2026 to 09.07.2026 upto 5.30 PM.
2	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	:	**01.08.2026 at 5.30 PM** instead of 07.07.2026 at 5.30 PM
3	Date of opening of Technical Bid.	:	**04.08.2026 at 11.00 AM** instead of 10.07.2026 at 11.00 AM
4	Date of opening of Financial Bid	:	**Will be intimated later on.**

All other contents will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
**Chief Construction Engineer
R.W. Circle, Berhampur**
OIPR-25001/25071/1/26-27/0018

25001/604/2627

E-Mail- sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in
Ph.- 06764-236404

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR ROAD WORKS IN ODISHA

Bid Identification No. Road Online AGL- 12/2025-26

No. 2164 // **Dt. 23/06/2026**

1. Name of the work : Road and bridge works.
2. Total No. of work : 10 Nos.
3. Estimated cost : Rs. 324.86 to Rs.701.63 Lakhs (Approx.)
4. Class of Contractor : As per annexure.
5. Period of completion. : As per annexure.
6. Other details.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul	Road Online-AGL-12/2026-27	06.07.26 at 10.00 A.M	21.07.26 up to 5.00 P.M	20.07.26 upto 1.00 P.M	22.07.26 at 10.00 A.M	Will be intimated separately

For detailed Notice inviting Tenders, Please visit to the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/-
**Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Angul**
OIPR-25001/25180/1/26-27/0011

34001/424/2627

e-mail ID - sepwd_rgda@yahoo.com
Phone/Fax No -06856 - 223049

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RAYAGADA (R&B) CIRCLE, RAYAGADA**

e-Procurement Notice

**Bid Identification No. C.C.E (RANDB) RGDA- 01/2026-27 (Online) Dt. 25.06.2026
No.803 Date. 25.06.2026**

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1.	The **Chief Construction Engineer, Rayagada (R&B) Circle, Rayagada** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **percentage rate** bids in **double cover mode** to be received in **online mode** only for the construction of works as detailed in the table below:		
2.	Nature of work	:	**Road, Building and Bridge work**
3.	No. of works	:	**05 (Five) Nos. of work**
4.	Estimated Cost. (Approximately)	:	**Rs. 706.88 Lakh, Rs. 144.80 Lakhs, Rs. 705.63 Lakhs, Rs. 494.95 Lakhs, and Rs. 637.81 Lakhs**
5.	Bid Cost (Online)	:	**Rs. 10,000/-**
6.	**EMD/ Bid Security Amount (Online)**	:	**One Percentage of the Estimated Cost.**
7.	Class of Contractor	:	**B, A and Special Class only as per Financial Eligibility.**
8.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	:	**11.00 Hours of Dt. 06.07.2026 to 17.00 Hours of Dt. 20.07.2026**
9.	Date of opening of Bid	:	**11.00 Hrs of Dt. 21.07.2026.**
10	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersorissa.gov.in**. Any Addendum/ Corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.		

Sd/-
**Chief Construction Engineer
Rayagada (R&B) Circle, Rayagada**
OIPR-34001/34154/1/26-27/0001

10001/326/2627

NOTICE INVITING BID

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)

In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit - III
Bhubaneswar-751 001

Tel.: (0674) 2380950, Website: https://osmcl.odisha.gov.in, Email:drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in

Bid Ref. No.: OSMCL/2026-27/ BLOOD BANK-SBTC/04 Date: 02/07/2026

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible bidders for **supply of SBTC Items as per the particulars mentioned below**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	**02/07/2026, 3 PM**	
2.	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id **-drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in**	**06/07/2026, up to 5:00 PM**	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		07/07/2026, 3 PM	**28/07/2026, 6.00 PM**
4.	Date & time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee and EMD amount as per section-IV of tender document	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		29/07/2026, 10 AM	**06/08/2026, 11.00 AM**
5.	Date & time of online Technical bid opening	**06/08/2026, 11:30 AM**	
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **https://osmcl.odisha.gov.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof. All notice will be published in the OSMCL website **https://osmcl.odisha.gov.in.** Hence the bidders are requested to visit OSMCL website **https://osmcl.odisha.gov.in** time to time for any published notice against the tender.

Sd/-
**Managing Director
OSMC Ltd., Odisha**
OIPR-10001/10112/1/26-27/0005

**RESERVE BANK INNOVATION HUB
CIN: U72900KA2021NPL178293**

The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub hereby invites sealed proposals from eligible, qualified, and experienced contractors for undertaking civil, interior, electrical, and allied works at its office premises situated at No. 8, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore 560001. Interested parties may access detailed specifications and eligibility criteria at https://rbihub.in/resources. The duly completed proposals must be submitted on or before **17th July 2026, on or before 4:00 PM.**

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Sr. Coaching Depot Officer, Santragachi, South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur Division, acting through the President of India invites an open tender, through e-tendering in **www.ireps.gov.in** website as per details mentioned below. Eligible tenderers are requested to apply for the same through online only in **www.ireps.gov.in** website as per details mentioned below. No offline tender will be accepted. Please read the tender document uploaded in the document section for details. **Sl.No.**-1. **Tender Notice No.: SRC-C-QWS-DT-030726. Name of the work:** Santragachi: Setting-Up of Quick Coach watering system at Santragachi Railway Station. **Tender Value:** ₹ 8,96,68,688.76 (including all charges). **EMD:** ₹ 17,93,400. **Closing date of tender:** 27.07.2026 at 11.30 hrs. **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 0. **Sl.No.**-2. **Tender Notice No.: C-MECH-OBHS-SHM-07-26. Name of the work:** On Board House-keeping Service (OBHS) in 10 trains and Linen Distribution in 9 Primary Trains maintained at Padmapukur & Shalimar for a period of 03 years. **Tender Value:** ₹ 34,05,79,011.67. **EMD:** ₹ 18,52,900. **Closing date of tender:** 29.07.2026 at 12.30 hrs. **Cost of Tender document:** ₹ 10,000 (non-refundable). **(PR-407)**

Chief Project Manager/Gati Shakti Unit/ Chakradharpur, South Eastern Railway acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders against Open Tender. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl.No.**-1. **Tender Notice No.: CKP-GSU-PSSA26-27-05. Name of work:** Appointment of Project Supervision Services Agency (PSSA) for Gati Shakti Unit, Chakradharpur Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 7,71,80,434.80. **EMD:** ₹ 5,35,900. **Date of opening:** 31.07.2026 at 15.30 hrs. **Sl.No.**-2. **Tender Notice No.: CKP-GS-ADD-26-27-7. Name of work:** Balance ABSS works at Chakradharpur, Rajgangpur, Panposh, Dangoaposi, Jaroli, Manoharpur, Rajkharsawan, Gamharia, Bimalgarh, Songari, Chaibasa, Bara Jamda and Badampahar. **Tender Value:** ₹ 139,16,75,438.59. **EMD:** ₹ 2,78,33,500. **Date of opening:** 30.07.2026 at 15.30 hrs. **Cost of Tender form:** ₹ 0 (for Sl.No. 1 & 2). These tenders can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderer/ bidders must have class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority– Railway Board's letter no. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-409)**

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER

No.COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 27/06/2026. The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in.** Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply.** Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/P/CLW/ Chittaranjan, 9163340721 or AMM/P, 9163342746. **Office Address:** Office of The PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Quantity; Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees); Tender Closing Date & Times (IST): [1]; 91260871;** Set Of Rotor Stamping For 3 Phase T.M. Type 6FRA-6068 Each Set Consisting Of Following (03) Three Items (1) Rotor Main Stamping DRG. NO. 1TWD. 096.010 ALT-10 REF-1, SPECN. 4TMS.096.053 REV- 2, ALT-11 (2) Rotor Mid Stamping 1TWD.096.010 ALT-10 REF-2, SPECN. NO. 4TMS.096.053 REV -2, ALT-11 (3) Solid Rotor End Plate Skel - 4890 ALT-0 AS PER STR NO. CLW/2011/0421/Stator & Rotor Stamping/REV-1. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]; **1693.00 Sets; ₹2000000.00; 05/08/2026 at 11:00 AM. [2]; 91260050;** 3-Phase Asynchronous Traction Motor (With Shaft Mounted Zr-Cu Stamping Type Resistance Ring Design Of Rotor, Scheme-I) Type 6FRA 6068 for WAG-9/WAP-7 Locos without active speed sensor. As per Spec. No - 4TMS.096.080, Rev-1, Alt-5 (or Latest), STR No. - CLW/2008/ 3PHTM/STR/0001, Rev-1, Alt-2 (or Latest), C&D No.:- 5700/004, Drg. No. 0TWD.096.001, Alt-3 or latest. **[Warranty Period:** 78 Months after the date of delivery]; **2490.00 Nos; ₹5000000.00, 21/08/2026 at 11:00 AM.**

PR8/408 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan

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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No: PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/26/27, Dated: 30/06/2026. PCMM/ CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in.** for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl.No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost** are as follows: **[102]; 31261161;** Elastic Ring for WAG-9 Electric Locomotives As Per RDSO Drawing No. SKEL-4717 ALT 4 and RDSO Specification No. RDSO/2007/EL/SPEC/ 0053 (Rev-2), June 2021 [**Warranty Period**: 36 Months after the date of delivery]; As Per Tender/ Document; **27/07/2026; ₹ 0.00. [103]; 31262661;** Set of Cable Disconnection TM-1 TO TM-6 (Terminal Block, TM-Cables) specn: CLW/ES/ 3/0128/E. [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %age, Item Category: Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; As Per Tender/Document; **05/08/2026; ₹ 0.00. [104]; 31262976;** Loctite-55 Or Equivalent, Category No.: S/9/0055, Specn: EN-751-2 (One reel contain 150 Mtrs of LOCTITE-55) [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %, Item Category: Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; As Per Tender/Document; **07/08/2026; ₹ 0.00. [105]; 31262690;** Set of Earthing Cable For WAG-9 As Per Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0112/C [Set Details as per category book attached in Doc. tab]; As Per Tender/ Document; **17/08/2026; ₹ 0.00. [106]; 31262535A;** Single Core Cable 4GKW-AX35, 1800V, BK as per Specn. No. CLW/ES/0458/E. [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %, Item Category: Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; As Per Tender/Document; **02/09/2026; ₹ 0.00. [107]; 14262950;** Rotary Switch Cab Heater/ Fan To DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/0108/A; As Per Tender/Document; **22/07/2026; ₹ 0.00. [108]; 14262692A;** High Voltage Bushing To DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/0052/F; As Per Tender/Document; **03/08/2026; ₹ 0.00. [109]; 14262623;** Latching Push Button Corridor Lighting To DRG./SPEC. NO. CLW/ES/3/ 0044; As Per Tender/Document; **05/08/2026; ₹ 0.00. [110]; 14262983;** Auxiliary Compressor (MCPA) As Per Specification No. CLW/ES/C-4/F; [Warranty Period: 12 Months after the date of delivery]; As Per Tender/Document; **24/08/2026; ₹ 0.00.**

PR2/410 PCMM/CLW/Howrah

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34001/429/2627

E-mail ID:cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in
cebuildings@rediffmail.com
Tel. (0674)-2391523

**OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA
NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)**

File No-B-I-Sports-41/2026 Lr. No.- 22970 Bhubaneswar, the 29th June, 2026

Invitation for Bids

Bid Identification No. CE-Bldg-II-22/2026-27

1.	The Chief Engineer, Buildings-II (I/c), Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for the works, **(1) "Improvement of Cricket-cum-Football Field, Cricket Practice Field, Basketball Court, Volleyball Court and Archery Court of District Stadium, Boudh" & (2) "Improvement of District Stadium, Boudh such as Construction of Facility Building, Tool Shed, Site Development Works and Renovation of existing buildings"** as detailed below.		
2.	Nature of work	:	Building Works
3.	No. of work	:	02 Nos.
4.	Bid Cost.	:	Rs. 10,000/-
5.	Class of Contractor	:	'A' / Special
6.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	:	From dt.07.07.2026 to 17.00 Hours of dt.22.07.2026.
7.	Date of Opening of Bid	:	Dt.23.07.2026 at 11:30 AM.
8.	The Bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.		

Sd/-
**Chief Engineer,
Buildings-II (I/c), Odisha**
OIPR-34001/34117/1/26-27/0038

PM MITRA PARK LUCKNOW

GLOBAL NOTICE INVITING TENDER

SELECTION OF MASTER DEVELOPER

A Flagship Integrated Textile & Apparel Park under the PM MITRA Parks Scheme of Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

PM MITRA Park Uttar Pradesh Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle jointly owned by the Government of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh, invites bids from experienced, financially sound and technically capable applicants for selection as **Master Developer** for design, development, operation and maintenance of **1000 acre greenfield Mega Textile & Apparel Park at Lucknow**, under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis.

WHY INVEST IN PM MITRA PARK LUCKNOW

- 5-F Integrated Park: Spinning to garmenting under one ecosystem
- Strategic Connectivity: Proximity to Lucknow airport, rail & expressway network
- Policy Support: UP Textile & Garmenting Policy 2022 incentives
- Central Govt. Assistance: Grant for Development – Upto Rs 500 Crore; Incentive for Units – Upto Rs 300 Crore

IMPORTANT DATES:

Pre-bid Conference: 08.07.2026 (11:30 hours IST)
Last Date for Bid Submission: 24.07.2026 (17:00 hours IST)
Bid Document, Corrigendum on: https://etender.up.nic.in/nicgep/app
Tender ID: 2026_PMMPL_1164079_1

For queries, Contact:
- Email: pmmitraparklucknow@gmail.com
- Phone: + 91-9670133334 / 9140920105 / 9934301425

**Government of Maharashtra
Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (SMART) Project, Pune**

Tender Notice

The Project Implementation Unit- MSAMB, SMART Project invites online tenders on https://mahatenders.gov.in for the following tenders.

Sr No	Name of Tender & Reference No	Approx. value of work	Last Date & time of bid submission
01	Construction of Multi-Commodity Packhouse (Part A- Civil work), including Supply & installation of Vapour Heat Treatment (VHT) unit with Integrated Packhouse and Irradiation Unit & scientific cold storage facilities (Part B - Plant & Machinery) at Bapgaon (Thane) Ref No. SMART/MSAMB/EI/ BAPGAON/93/2024 Tender ID-2026_AMBPN_1313642	Rs.12761.01 Lakhs with GST, royalty, material testing charges & ESMP.	07/08/2026 Time-15.00 Hrs

The RFB (Bid) document can be downloaded from the website- **https://mahatenders.gov.in**. Also same are available on the project website **www.smart-mh.org** & MSAMB website **www.msamb.com.** For further any updates / notices shall be published on aforementioned website only.

SD/-
Head - Project Implementation Unit- MSAMB
Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (SMART) Project, Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Board
Plot No. R-7, Market Yard, Gultekadi, Pune - 411037

DGIPR 2026-27/1469

13001/1045/2627

Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited
5th Floor, BMC- ICOMC Tower, Bhoi Nagar,
Unit-9, Bhubaneswar- 751022
E-mail Id: bbsr.bscl@gmail.com, CIN: U74990OR2016PLC020016
Telephone-0674- 2548428 FAX: 0674-2540811

No.1167/BSCL/2025 Dt. 02.07.2026

TENDER CALL NOTICE

Sl. No	Name of the work	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Document From	To
1	RFP for "Selection of Agency for upgradation of Existing Smart City Outdoor Kiosks into Digital LED Bill Board including Design, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation, Maintenance at Various Locations in Bhubaneswar."	1166/BSCL/2026 Dated 02.07.2026	**04.07.2026 12:00 Hrs.**	**27.07.2026 17.30 Hrs.**

Further details can be seen from website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in/** Any Corrigendum or Addendum, if any will not be published in newspaper and can only be seen in the above-mentioned web site.

By order Managing Director
Sd/-
**General Manager-II
Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited**
OIPR-13001/13070/1/26-27/0004

25001/616/2627

ଅତିରିକ୍ତ ମୁଖ୍ୟଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ପାନୀୟଜଳ ଯୋଗାଣ ଓ ପରିମଳ ମଣ୍ଡଳ ,କୋରାପୁଟ

At-D.N.K Road, Beside Fire Station Koraput, Pin-764020
Email- acerwsskpt@gmail.co

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONNAL ENGINEER
RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION CIRCLE, KORAPUT**

Tender Identification No. 03 /ACE/RWSS/KPT/2026-27/ 24.06.2026

The Additional Chief Engineer, RWS&S Circle, Koraput on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate Bids in Double cover (P1 contract) from the eligible class of experienced registered contractors through e-Tendering system for the Piped water supply works as detailed in DTCN. The bid should be submitted on-line in the website **www.tenderorissa.gov.in** separately for the works.

1	Nature of work.	Construction of new building for RWS&S Sub-Division & Section office Boipariguda under Boipariguda Block in the district of Koraput.
2	Time period for completion	Nine (09) Months.
3	Estimated Cost.	112.85 lakhs
4	Total Nos of works	1 nos.
5	Tender cost	Rs.10,000.00
6	Class of Contractor.	"B" & "A"
7	Availability of Bid document in the website	Dt. 06.07.2026 at 17.00 hours to 15.07.2026 up to 17.00 hours.
8	Date of Seeking clarification.	During the Office hours of 06.07.2026 to 15.07.2026
9	Date of Opening of Bid.	Dt. 17.07.2026 at 11.00 AM

Further details can be seen in the bidding documents which is available in the e- procurement portal https/www.tendersorissa.gov.in Subsequent corrigendum if required shall be appeared in the web site Authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
**Addl. Chief Engineer,
RWS&S Circle, Koraput**
OIPR-25001/25034/1/26-27/0004

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₹200 Cashback

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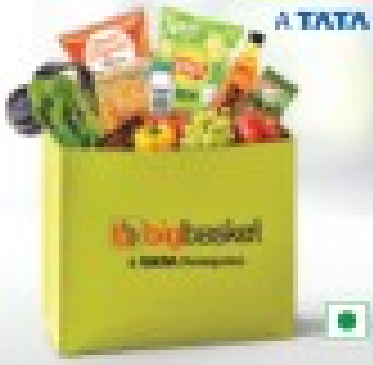
A TATA Enterprise



INDIA DIGEST

Why the 'haste' in freezing TMC bank accounts, asks HC

Calcutta HC questioned Thursday the "hot haste" with which police froze three Trinamool bank accounts in 24 hours of a complaint by dissident MLAs of the party about the alleged source of funds deposited there. Justice Saugata Bhattacharyya asked HDFC Bank to report by July 7 the individual current balance in each of these accounts and their authorised signatories. The court declined to extend interim relief to Trinamool, which has challenged police's decision to freeze the accounts immediately after registering the plaint. It told counsel for rebel camp that the "complaint does not instil confidence in the mind of the court".

Man shot dead by wife's 4 cousins; three held

A man wanted for the alleged murder of his brother-in-law was injured in a police encounter and later arrested, along with his cousin, in UP's Pratapgarh district late Wednesday. Police said, four cousins of an eight-month pregnant woman allegedly shot dead her 30-year-old husband Raju Singh on Monday. Raju and the woman had eloped and got married in Aug 2025. Her family was against the marriage as Raju belonged to a different caste.

'Informal' MHA meeting on Ladakh today

Over a month after talks between Ladakh groups and a Union home ministry (MHA) sub-committee in Delhi, informal parleys are slated to be held Friday in Leh with central officials. "The meeting will focus on minutes of the last meeting and other issues," Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) co-chairman Sajjad Kargili said.

Woman, her lover get death for killing her 2 kids

A trial court in Bihar's Madhubani sentenced a woman and her lover to death on Thursday for killing her four-year-old son and 18-month-old daughter in July 2023. Describing the crime as the "rarest of rare", district and additional sessions judge Abhishek Ranjan also fined them Rs 50,000 each.

Woman fights off leopard to save grandson, pet dog

A 52-year-old woman fought off a leopard to protect her eight-year-old grandson and the family's pet dog, staving off the animal for almost an hour during which she suffered injuries to her head and hand. Devika Sherpa is undergoing treatment at Darjeeling district hospital.

SpiceJet ordered to pay Rs 20,000 for boy's burns

A consumer court in Surat has ordered SpiceJet to pay Rs 20,000 in compensation to a Surat resident whose 8-year-old son suffered burn injuries after a cup of hot noodles served on a faulty tray spilled on him during a Delhi-Surat flight in Nov 2021. The complainant, the boy's father, said he was travelling with his family from Delhi to Surat.

India, Japan align on global issues

Sachin.Parashar
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi reaffirmed their commitment to cooperating towards an early convening of the next Quad Leaders' Summit and underlined the importance of ensuring unimpeded freedom of navigation through Strait of Hormuz in a joint statement that showcased the deep strategic convergence between the countries on regional and global issues.

With both countries heavily dependent on the critical maritime chokepoint for their energy supplies, Modi and Takaichi also registered their opposition to any restrictive measures hampering the movement of commercial vessels. According to the India-Japan joint statement, both sides also agreed to strengthen cooperation on strategic petroleum reserves, including through technical collaboration on stockpiling ecosystem, with Takaichi affirming her support for India's membership of International Energy Agency (IEA).

Significantly for India, the statement, unlike the one issued after Tokyo summit last year, named Pakistan for its support to cross-border terrorism against India. "The two Prime Ministers unequivocally and strongly condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations, including cross-border terrorism from Pakistan," said the joint statement, while strongly condemning Pahalgam terrorist attack and seeking action against Pakistan-based groups like Jaish and Lashkar. India too backed Japan's position on East China Sea and South China Sea, with the leaders expressing serious concern over the situation in the region and, in a message to Beijing, reiterating their strong opposition to any unilateral action that endangers the safety as well as freedom of navigation and overflight and attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion.

"They shared their serious concerns over the growing militarisation of disputed features. They reaffirmed that maritime disputes must be resolved peacefully and in accordance with international law, as reflected in UNCLOS," said joint statement.

According to diplomatic sources, the leaders also discussed the ongoing diplomatic standoff between China and Japan over Taiwan issue that has seen Beijing impose export controls on Japanese companies.

India-Japan energy security outcome

- Commitment to ensuring freedom of navigation and the uninterrupted flow of commerce, including through the Strait of Hormuz
- Promotion of regional resilience through POWERR Asia, an initiative by Takaichi
- Establishment of a dialogue framework on crude oil and petroleum product stockpiles
- Support for India's membership of the IEA
- Advancing joint participation in upstream oil and gas development projects
- Cooperation for resource diversification, decarbonization, and rural revitalization
- Launch of the "Japan-India CBG Initiative" to support India's biogas plant establishment target
- Promotion of green hydrogen and ammonia production in India (announcement of private-sector investment projects)

PM Modi speaks about UNICORN alliance

▶ Continued from page 1

Modi spoke about the UNICORN partnership that is expected to boost naval stealth. The announcement follows Japan's relaxation under Takaichi of self-imposed restrictions on defence exports.

During the joint press statement after the meeting, Modi addressed Takaichi as his 'choti behen' (younger sister) and the Japanese PM reciprocated by saying that both of them were on the same page and would look to develop this relationship of brother and sister.

On economic security, which dominated the summit agenda, the leaders reiterated in a joint statement their grave concerns over the use of "economic coercion and non-market policies and practices, including arbitrary export restrictions that may lead to supply chain disruptions particularly in critical minerals and critical industrial sectors, and price manipulation". Amid global concerns over China's dominance of the critical minerals sector, Modi and Takaichi underscored the importance of diversified, resilient and reliable global supply chains, a fair competitive global environment, and the need to avoid reliance on any one country.

In that regard, foreign secretary Vikram Misri later said the leaders discussed the need to maintain strategic autonomy and resilience. The meeting also saw Modi and Takaichi agreeing to make the India-Japan CEPA more "forward-looking" to ramp up the modest bilateral trade volume of about $27.5 billion.

Apart from joint declarations on economic security and energy resilience, the two sides also issued a joint statement for cooperation in AI.

India's first pvt orbital launch between July 12 & Aug 4: Skyroot

Times News Network

Bengaluru: Skyroot Aerospace Thursday announced that the maiden flight of its Vikram-1 launch vehicle, India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket, will take place between July 12 and Aug 4, marking a milestone for the country's private space sector.

The mission is named Aagaman, Sanskrit for arrival. The launch window opens on July 12, subject to the completion of final assembly and testing at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, along with weather, safety and range clearances.

The primary objective of the mission is to gather real flight data from every stage of the launch vehicle, helping the company validate its designs and prepare for regular commercial launches.

"The single most important objective of Mission Aagaman is to capture the real in-flight performance data from every system on Vikram-1. This data cannot be fully replicated through ground testing. The moment Vikram-1 lifts off, India's private space industry will cross a threshold it has never crossed before," Pawan Kumar Chandana, co-founder and CEO of Skyroot Aerospace, said.

Mission Aagaman follows the successful launch of Vikram-S in Nov 2022, which became the first privately built Indian rocket to be launched.

सीएसआईआर – केंद्रीय विद्युतरसायन अनुसंधान संस्थान
CSIR - CENTRAL ELECTROCHEMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
कारैकुड़ी / Karaikudi-630 003.

Notification No. PS – 07/2026

ENGAGEMENT OF PROJECT PERSONNEL

Online Applications are invited from eligible and interested candidates for engagement of Project Personnel on purely temporary basis under CSIR/Externally funded Project(s), tenable at CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi and CECRI Chennai Unit.

S.No.	Name of the Position	No.of Positions	Stipend (in Rs)
1	Project Scientist - III	01	₹ 78,000/-
2	Research Associate - I	01	₹ 58,000/-
3	Project Scientist - I	08	₹ 56,000/-

Date of Commencement of ONLINE application: 03.07.2026 (from 10.00 AM)
Last date for Submission of ONLINE application: 13.07.2026 (up to 05.00 PM)
For further detailed Notification, please visit our CECRI website
https://www.cecri.res.in/
प्रशासनिक अधिकारी
Administrative Officer

NETAJI SUBHAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
A STATE UNIVERSITY UNDER DELHI ACT 06 of 2018, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI (FORMERLY NETAJI SUBHAS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)
Azad Hind Fauj Marg, Sector-3, Dwarka, New Delhi –110 078
Website: http://www.nsut.ac.in

ADVERTISMENT FOR THE POST OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS/ ADJUNCT FACULTY/VISITING FACULTY/PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS IN NSUT

Applications are invited from Retired/ Serving Academicians/Other Professionals from reputed institutions for various positions such as Professor Emeritus/ Adjunct Faculty/Visiting Faculty/Professor Of Practice in Departments of the University. The detailed rolling advertisement and Application form is available at **http://www.nsut.ac.in.**
Interested persons are required to send the duly filled application form along with the relevant documents to the Office of the Registrar, NSUT latest by 20th July, Monday (by 05:00 P.M) for consideration in the upcoming semester.

REGISTRAR, NSUT

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0127/26-27.

Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB)
(Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas)
OIDB Bhawan, Plot No-2, Sector-73, Noida-201301

No. AD/30/2024-ADM- Part (2) **Dated: 29th June, 2026**

1. The Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) invites applications from Central Govt. /State Govt. /PSUs/Autonomous/ Statutory bodies through proper channel from eligible candidates for the post of Financial Advisor & Chief Account officer (FA&CAO) at Pay Level-13 and Steno Grade-C at Pay Level-06 on deputation basis as per 7th CPC.
2. The last date for receipt of applications at OIDB shall be the 21st day from the date of publication of the advertisement in 'Employment News'.
3. The Central Govt. employees on deputation basis shall be subject to grant of exemption from immediate absorption from DP&PW, Central Government.
4. For the eligibility criteria, Vacancy Circular, and other details, please visit the **OIDB website: www.oidb.gov.in or** in case the website is down and not accessible, the requisite information may be obtained by writing to mgr.admn.oidb@nic.in.
5. Any corrigendum/addendum/cancellation etc related to this advertisement will be published only on the OIDB website. Candidates are, therefore, advised to visit the OIDB website regularly.

Manager (P&A)
OIDB, Noida

CBC 33113/11/0004/2627

Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd.
(CIN U45203MH2002SGC136979)
RECRUITMENT
Appointment of Consultant (Aviation) on Contract basis
MADC invites application from the eligible candidates for the post of "Consultant (Aviation)" on contract basis.
The detailed advertisement can be seen / downloaded from the website **www.madcindia.org** from **03.07.2026** on 10.00 hrs.
Sd/-
Vice Chairman and Managing Director

SBI Operations Support
Partner for Optimal Operations
SBOSS, 2nd Floor, Madhuli Building, Shiv Sagar Estate, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400018.
E-mail: support@sboss.net.in **Website:** https://sboss.net.in.
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
REF NO: SBOSS/RFP/PPSC/2026-27/009
Applications are invited by State Bank Operations Support Services Pvt. Ltd. (SBOSS) from eligible applicants for Empanelment to provide manpower resources (Collection Agents). Detailed RFP is available on **https://sboss.net.in/CorporateGovernance/Notice**. Last date and time for submission of proposal is **23.07.2026, 17:00 Hrs.**
Place: Mumbai **Chief Operating Officer, SBOSS**
Date: 02.07.2026

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
No. 16 C-1, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560052. Phone: 080-22268677/78/79 Fax: 080-22268667
Email: kerc-ka@nic.in Website: https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in
No: KERC/KEDC/2026-27/2219 Date: 02-07-2026

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Sub: Draft Karnataka Electricity Distribution Code (KEDC), (First Amendment), 2026.
Ref: KERC/KEDC/2026-27/2080, dated: 04-06-2026.
The draft Regulations on the above subject was published in the Official Gazette of Karnataka on 11-06-2026 and the same is also made available on the KERC's website **https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in.**
The Commission has scheduled a public hearing in the matter on **14-07-2026 at 2.30 pm in the Court Hall of the Commission.** Interested persons may appear in person before the Commission and may make oral submissions thereon.

Sd/- Secretary
For Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission
DIPR/CP/YC/1436/2026-27

ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಆನಂದರಾವ್ ವೃತ್ತ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
ಸಂ: ಜಸಇ/ಇಎಸ್‌ಕ್ಯೂ/2025/ಪ.ಪು/2025 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02/07/2026

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಶ್ರೀ ಎ.ಪಿ.ದೊಡ್ಡಚನ್ನೇಗೌಡ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿರುವ ಮೇಲ್ಮನವಿ ರಿಟ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಂ: 14022/2022 ಕುರಿತಂತೆ 40 ಪ್ರತಿವಾದಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ವಿಳಾಸಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದೇ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅವರುಗಳ ವಿಳಾಸವನ್ನು ಖಚಿತ ಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದರಿಯವರು ಈ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದ ನಂತರ ತಮ್ಮ ವಿಳಾಸವು ಸರಿ ಇರುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಆನಂದರಾವ್ ವೃತ್ತ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯರು ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಕಾಸ ಸೌಧ, ಡಾ॥ ಬಿ.ಆರ್ ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ವೀಧಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರಿಗೆ ವಿಳಾಸಿಸಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ.

SL. No	W.P SL. No	Respondent's Name & Address
1	28	Sri Prakash Sharanappa Alur, Junior Engineer, O/o The Assistant Executive Engineer, Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigama Niyamitha, Sub-division, No.17, Khanapur-591 302, Belagavi District.
2	35	Sri Kedhari M, kuligod, 42 yeras, S/o M.Kuligod.l-t, No.297, Ashraya Colony, Post Alarwad, Taluk & District Belgaum-590 003.
3	71	Sri Kashiranganatha, 47 years, S/o Siddaiah, No.23/24, 5th A Cross, Tigarapalya Main road, Bangalore north, Bangalore-560058.
4	81	Sri Manjunath G.N, 45 Years, S/o Narayanaswamy G.H, No.693/B, 20th Main, 21st Cross, HSR 2nd Sector, Bangalore Urban-560102
5	85	Sri H.R.Ramesha, 47 years, S/o Ramaiah, R/o Amar Yothi Nagar opp to Kannaiah Shetty Thota, Behind Hemavathi Officers And Quarters, Behind Ramakrishna Ashrama, Kunigal Road, Maralur Post. Tumkur-5.
6	89	Sri H.S. Murthy, 42 years, S/o Sarathi Hanumanthappa, Chickjajur post, Holalkere Taluk, Chitradurga District-577 523.
7	116	Sri Kenchana Gowda G.S. 47 Years, S/o Shambhulingappa G. Marikunte Village and post, Jagalur Taluk. Davanagere District.
8	128	Sri K.L. Lokesh, 51 Years, S/o K.Lakke Gowda, No.2164, 8th Main Road, E Block, 2nd stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.
9	145	Sri M.L.Ravi Kumar, 45 Years. S/o Lingegowda, 2nd Cross. NES Extension, Malavalli Town, Mandya District.
10	149	Sri C.Raje Gowda, 49 Years, S/o Late Chikke Gowda, Hodakahalli Village, Kikkeri Hobli Post, K.R.Pet Taluk, Mandya District.
11	160	Sri Thippeswamy, 48 years, S/o Hanumantha Bhowi Halagroo Hiriyur Taluk, Chitradurga District. Chitradurga-577545.
12	165	Sri Ananthkumar H.Choori, C/o H.Y.Choori, Bijapur Taluk And District Bijapur-586127.
13	91	Sri Maharudrappa H.B., 52 Years. S/o H.Basappa, Channapura at Post, Channagiri Taluk, Davanagere District.
14	99	Sri Umesh S.C @ Rebi 47 yesrs, S/o Late Subramanyam, R/a. 31, Near Maruthi School, M.S.Palya, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore.
15	105	105 Sri B.Thippeswamy, S/o Boraiah, R/o MIG 347, Kallahalli Vinobhanagar, Shimoga-577204.
16	106	Sri K.M. Mohan Kumar, 43 years, S/o K.Mahadevappa, No.386, Neethimarga, 15th Main, 2nd Stage Siddarthanagar, Mysore-570001.
17	109	Sri Mahadevappa, 47 years, S/o Phakerappa Hyati, Kidadal Koppal Post, Koppal Taluk, Koppal-583231
18	114	Sri N.Rajagopala Babu, 47 years, S/o P.Nagabhusharam, H.No.584. Subramanya Swamy Temple Street. Oorgaumpet (po). KGF-563 121, Kolar District.
19	126	Sri Sayed Murtuza A Kolhar, 48 Years, S/o Ahmmed Saheb I, Kolhar, No. 18. 1st Floor, 3rd Main Road. Bhairaveshwara Nagar. Nagarbhavi Main Road, Bangalore-560072.
20	132	Sri V.L.Jayaram, S/o Venkatappa K.T, No.1807, 7TH A main E Block, 2nd stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.
21	148	Sri K.L. Manjunath, 46 Years, S/o Lakkashetty Gowda, Kothanaghatta, Shravanabelagola Houli, Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.
22	158	Sri Ravindra Reddy @ Patil Ravindra Reddy, S/o Basavarajappa, C/o H.K.Patil, R/o Hothpet, Taluk.
23	164	Sri Revanasiddayya, House No-1-11-337-73, Mruthyunjaya Nilaya, Karntaka Housing Co-operative Society Colony, Near Lions School, Raichur-584101.

ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಜಸಂ. ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–9.
DIPR/CP/VCPL/1431/2026-27

DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM (DoT)
GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
MAHARASHTRA CONVENTION BUREAU (MCB)
Head Office: 4th Floor, Sakhar Bhavan, Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400 021
Tel.: 91-22-69107600 / 69107604 • E-mail: diot@maharashtratourism.gov.in
ADVERTISEMENT
The Maharashtra Convention Bureau, under the Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, invites applications from eligible and experienced professionals for the following posts on contractual basis:

1. **Chief Operating Officer (Marketing) / Chief Marketing Officer**
2. **Manager (Marketing)**

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS: 10th July 2026
For complete details regarding eligibility, qualifications, experience, terms and conditions, and the application process, interested candidates may visit: **https://maharashtratourism.gov.in/**
Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra

बाइरैक जैव प्रौद्योगिकी उद्योग अनुसंधान सहायता परिषद्
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)
Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
Ref. No. BIRAC/Vac/Adv-23/June/09
Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a Not-for-Profit Section 8, Schedule B, Public Sector Enterprise, under Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India invites online applications for the following positions under its Project Management Units :-

Position Code	Position	No. of Vacancies
MII-MR-02	Manager (Regulatory)	01
MII-MRA-01	Manager (Research Analysis)	01
MII-SPO-01	Senior Program Officer	02
MII-PO-01	Program Officer	03
MII-PMA-01	Program Management Analyst	01
MII-FO-03	Finance Officer	02
MII-AA-01	Administrative Assistant	01
MII-LO-01	Legal Officer	01
MII-MT-01	Young Professional	02

For further details regarding qualification, experience, eligibility criteria, pay-scales etc. please visit BIRAC website **www.birac.nic.in**
Last Date for Online Applications: July 12, 2026

citi
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
Unclaimed Funds - Legacy Consumer Business
This is a message for customers of Citibank N.A. India's legacy consumer business who continue to have unclaimed funds with the Bank even after the divestiture of the business on March 1, 2023. You can request for release of your unclaimed funds through our dedicated service channels.
To request the release, please write to the email ID provided below, preferably from your email address registered with the Bank, mentioning your account number and attaching a self-attested ID proof.
Email : serviceindia@citi.com
Website : https://www.citigroup.com/global/about-us/global-presence/india

KARNATAKA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Tumkur Division, Karnataka, Telephone : 0816 2272479

No.EE/KPWD/Tmk/JE-3/T.No.20/2026-27 Dt. 25-06-2026

Invitation For Short Tender (IFT) KW-4
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Government of Karnataka tenders are invited in **Two** cover system for Class-3 & above Contractors registered in PWD for **02 work** under 5054-04-337-0-01-154 and 5054-04-337-0-01-132, Head of account in the jurisidiction of Tumkur Division through KPPP-Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)**. The dates are published as below.

(Maximum Amount Put to Tender **Rs.158.04 Lakhs**, Minimum Amount Put to Tender **Rs. 156.97 Lakhs**, Maximum EMD Amount **Rs. 2,37,066/-** and Minimum Amount put to Tender **Rs.2,35,461/-**).

1	Last date for tender information enquiries	**03-07-2026: 17-00**
2	Last date for submission of tender	**04-07-2026: 16-00**
3	Date of opening the Technical bid	**06-07-2026: 16-30**
4	Date of opening the Financial bid	**07-07-2026 : 17-00**

Note: Turnover Certificate without UDI Number will not be considered, Hereafter any changes with reference to this Notification will be Notified in E-Portal Only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.W.D Division, Tumkur

DIPR/TUM/RO-63/26-27/Oysters

Government of Karnataka

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Hassan Division, Hassan.

No: EE/PWD/HSN/JE-5/2026-27/ DATED: 30.06.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 18/2026-27, Dated: 30.06.2026

Tender is invited by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000, Standard Tender Document KW-4 from the eligible registered Contractors of Karnataka PWD. Tenders Invited through E-Procurement for 01 Works under PWD, Sakaleshpura Sub Division. The Estimate amount is 200.00 Lakhs. The amount mentioned in tender notification is sanctioned estimated cost, but EMD & class of contractor is considered based on amount put to tender which excludes GST & other charges. Last date & time for receipt of tender is on 13.07.2026 @ 16.00 hours. For more details visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office through Phone No. 08172-268437 or in person during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD,
Hassan Division, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/286/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026-27

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3		
1.	Reconstruction of damaged footpath in Dadumajra, Chandigarh. Capital Head : Improvement of Road, Parking Places & Infrastructure Facilities. Est. Cost : Rs. 112.41 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs. 2,24,810/- Time Limit : 04 Months	02.07.2026 To 09.07.2026 upto 12.00 noon	09.07.2026 at 15.00 PM

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. Ph. 0172-5021482 xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation
Civil Engineering Department, Central Office, Hubballi

No/NWKT/EE/HBL/DB(T)/ 332 /2026-27 Date : 02/07/2026

Notice Inviting Tender

Item rate tenders in Two Cover System are invited through GOK KPPP Portal as per KTPP Standard Tender Documents for the following works from appropriate class of Registered Class – 1 Civil Contractors in KPWD/CPWD/MES as per the schedule given below. Eligible contractors can participate in the tender by confirming the other details which has been published on Date : **01.07.2026** in https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in KPPP Portal. Any changes in Tender Notification will be published in KPPP Portal only, separate paper notification will not be issued.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Indent No	Amount put to tender (Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Last date & Time for Submission of tender
1	Construction of new EV Depot Hubballi at RWH Premises (Under PM-e Bus Sewa Scheme)	NWKRTC/ 2026-27/BD/ WORK_INDENT 96	**13,40,06,860/-**	**15,00,000/-**	**30.07.2026**, Time : 16.00 Hrs

For further details visit https:/ /www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for any "HELP" regarding uploading of Tender Documents, please call on help desk +91-9240214000/+91-9240214001/ +91-8068948777/+91-8046010000, 0836-2332383 of all working hours. Bidders can contact this office for further details in all working hours or Call 0836-2332383.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, NWKRTC C.E. Department, Central Office, Hubballi

DIPR/Dharwad/374/KSMCA/2026-27

ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು

ದೂ.ಸಂ: 080–22111177

ಬೇಗೂರು ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 560 100

e-Mail:ka.doddathoguru.tp@gmail.com | Web: www.doddathoguru.mrc.gov.in

ಸಂ.ದೊಪಪಂ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/09/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.07.2026

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಟ್ಟದಾಸನಪುರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯ ಸ್ವಂತ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿಯ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅದರಂತೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

Sl No	Indent No.
01	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60054
02	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60065
03	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60066
04	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60109
05	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60110
06	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60111
07	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60119
08	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60120
09	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60122
10	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60053
11	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60051
12	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 59993
13	DMA/2026-27/OW/WORK_INDENT 60112

1. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.07.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 2.** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.07.2026ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ.** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. **3.** ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯ ಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. **4.** ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–22111177. ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: **ka.doddathoguru.tp@gmail.com**

ಸಹಿ/–
ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ,
ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ,
ದೊಡ್ಡತೋಗೂರು.

ವಾಸಸಂಇ/ವಾತ್ತ/ಹಂ/1449/2026–27

SDS TRC & RAJIV GANDHI INSTITUTE OF CHEST DISEASES

(An Autonomous Institute, Government of Karnataka)
Reg. No. SOR/BLU/DR/671/09-10 dated: 23-09-2009
(Super speciality Referral Hospital & Post Graduate Institute)

No. SDS/TND/12/2026-27 Date : 02-07-2026

Tender Notification

Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal-2 for the procurement of 1. Portable NIV/BIPAP Machine With Humidifier 2. HD Camera System 3. Rigid Bronchoscope 4. Basic Anesthesia Ventilator with Multi Para Monitor for Pulmonary Medicine 5. Integrated Advance Electro Surgical Unit with Ultrasonic Energy System 6. Standalone Portable ETCO2 Monitor 7. Multipara / Patient Monitor with ETCO2 8. OT Table (Electro hydraulic) 9. Defibrillator with External Paddles 10. Spiro Meter 11. Autoclave Machine 12. Table Top Portable Autoclave Machine 13. Defibrillator with Internal and External Paddles 14. High End Anesthesia Ventilator With ETCO2 Gas Modules and Multi Para Monitor through KPP Portal. Tender Document is available in KPP Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **04-07-2026** onwards.

Sd/- Director
SDS TRC & RGICD
Bengaluru-560029

DIPR/CP/1451/Sreshta/2026-27

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED

ಚಾಮುಂಡೇಶ್ವರಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿದೆ)
ಕಾರ್ಯ & ಪಾಲನಾ ವೃತ್ತ,
ಚಾವಿಸನಿನಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ–571401
Telephone No: 9449598633

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
O&M Circle, CESC, Mandya-571401
Web Site: www.cescmysore.org
Email ID: seemdy@cescmysore.org

Company Identity Number [CIN]:- U40109KA2004SGC035177

No.SEE/EE(O)/AET/F-41/2026-27/1374 Date : 01.07.2026.

E-Auction Notification (E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Mandya O & M circle, Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation is inviting e-Auction bidding from eligible bidders for the sale and disposal of Scraped Distribution Transformers and other materials on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS' in various stores of CESC, O & M Circle, Mandya jurisdiction. The details of quantity etc., and regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 06.07.2026. For clarification contact help desk+91-8046010000,+91-8068948777 or e-mail address support@eprochelpdesk.com. For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912

Sd/-Superintending Engineer (Ele) O & M circle, CESC, Mandya

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/242/2025–26

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

No.16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru - 560 001
Ph.: 080-22268677/ 78 / 79 Fax: 080-22268667
e-Mail : kerc-ka@nic.in Website : https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in

No.:KERC/F-32/V-29/2026-27/2218 Date: 02.07.2026

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Sub: Public hearing on the matter of Determination of traiff and norms in respect of Solar Power Projects (Including Distributed Solar PhotoVoltaic (DSPV) Plants with different metering mechanism) for the period from 1st July 2026 to 30th June 2029

The Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission has issued a Discussion paper on the above subject which is available on KERC website: viz **https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in**

The Commission will hold a Public Hearing in the matter **on Tuesday,** the **14.07.2026 of 3.00 p.m.** in the **Court Hall of the Commission of First Floor, 16C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru.**

Interested persons are requested to attend the Public Hearing and submit their views/comments/suggestions, before the Commission.

DIPR/DD-C.P/1444/KSMCA/2026-27 **Sd/- Secretary, KERC**

Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage and Infrastructure Corporation Ltd.

Old Working Women Hostel, Behind Nehru Place, Lal Kothi, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Ph: 0141- 2742240, 2742538, 2742263, E-mail: ruifdco@gmail.com, rudsico@rajasthan.gov.in, Web: urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rudsico

F18 ( ) RUDSICO/SBM (U)-2.0/2026-27/Tender/15447 Date :- 24/06/2026

Short NIB for publication (NIB No.03/2026-27)

Notice Inviting Online Bids for Sewerage works under Used Water Management component of SBM (U)–2.0 and STP work in Salasar under budget announcement

Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage & infrastructure Corporation Limited (RUDSICO),a Government of Rajasthan undertaking, invites online unconditional bids on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan through e-procurement portal **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** from eligible bidders in accordance with the RTPP Act 2012 and RTPP Rules 2013, amended up to date, and under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) National with single stage-two envelope Bidding procedure for following works:

Sr. No.	Package	Name of Sewerage work	Project cost (Amt. in Cr)	Bid security (Amt. in Lakh)	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Package – 01	House Sewer Connections in Bari Sadri, Fatehnagar, Kushalgarh, Nathdwara & Nimbahera towns	10.42	20.829	08 Months
2	Package – 02	House Sewer Connections in Suratgarh, Deshnoke & Bhadra towns	12.49	24.987	08 Months
3	Package – 03	House Sewer Connections in Jaitaran, Jalore & Sumerpur towns	9.18	18.369	08 Months
4	Package – 04	House Sewer Connections in Makrana, Nawalgarh, Ramgarh, Pushkar & Chirawa towns	7.76	15.529	08 Months
5	Package – 05	House Sewer Connections in Karauli town	7.07	14.137	08 Months
6	-	Laying of sewer line and construction of STP in Sambhar town with 01 year defect liability including 10 years O&M	9.81	19.624	12 Months
7	-	Sewerage treatment plant (STP) & MWPS at Salasar	5.11	10.22	12 Months

The details of NIB can be seen at e-procurement portal of state government **sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and **eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** from date 29.06.2026 at 1700 Hours till the end date of online submission of bids i.e. 20.07.2026 up to 1500 Hours. Any subsequent addendum/corrigendum shall be published only at the e-procurement portal.

UBN No. : RDP2627WLOB00021, RDP2627WLOB00022, RDP2627WLOB00023, RDP2627WLOB00024, RDP2627WLOB00025, RDP2627WLOB00027, RDP2627WLOB00026

Executive Director
RUDSICO, Jaipur

Raj.Samwad/C/26/6041

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
(श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
Employees' State Insurance Corporation
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय हरियाणा
पंचदीप भवन, सेक्टर 16, फरीदाबाद–121002
Regional Office Haryana
Panchdeep Bhawan, Sector-16, Faridabad-121002
Phone: 0129-2222980-81, Email : rd-haryana@esic.gov.in
website : www.roharyana.esic.gov.in

Notice Inviting Tender

Regional Director, ESI Corporation, Regional Office, Faridabad invites open tender through online mode from Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) set up by Central / State Government to carry out Civil or Electrical works or from any other Central / State Government Organization dealing with building's which are notified by MoUD Bodies for taking up the Special Repair Works of Major Structural Repair Of RCC Members and relevant Repair/Renovation Work, etc. in r/o ESIC Hospital, Gurugram, Haryana on Lump-sum Service Charges on Deposit Work basis as per GFR 133 (3) in two bid system as detailed below:

Sr. No	Name of Works & Locations	Tender Available on Site	Estimated Cost	EMD Cost
1	SPECIAL REPAIR WORK FOR MAJOR STRUCTURAL REPAIR OF RCC MEMBERS AND RELEVANT REPAIR/ RENOVATION WORK IN R/O ESIC HOSPITAL BUILDING AT GURUGRAM (Tender ID- 2026_ ESIC_907657_1)	12.06.2026 @12:00 Noon to 13.07.2026 @12:00 Noon	Rs. 19,41,61,894/-	Rs. 38,83,238/-

Note- EMD only to be submitted in Hard Copy in Tender Box kept at Construction Branch, 3rd Floor ESIC Regional Office Sec-16, Faridabad as per date mentioned in NIT documents.

Bidders are requested to refer to the **Corrigendum published on CPP Portal dated 29.06.2026**, which forms an integral part of this Notice Inviting Tender (NIT).

The Tender documents, details and other information are available on (**https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app** & **www.esic.gov.in**).

Any change in the tender shall be uploaded in the above mentioned website only, hence the tenderers may visit the website regularly to make themselves aware about the information related to the bidding.

Sd/-
Regional Director

INQUIZITIVE

JOY BHATTACHARJYA

1 In which specific athletics event did Ancy Sojan break an Indian record that was set by Anju Bobby Goerge 22 years ago?

2 Which type of attire — which participants first wore in India in the 19th century — gets its name from a game and was originally also known as a chukker shirt?

3 Which Indian pharmaceutical company was named after the founders Gurbax Singh and Ranbir Singh, originally starting as a distributor for the Japanese company Shionogi?

4 The Ima market, also known as the Nupi Keithel is a large market in Imphal with over 5,000 vendors selling vegetables, fruits, textiles, toys, spices and utensils. What makes it unique?

5 Serials. If you were living in the Arconia apartments in New York, with Charles-Haden Savage, Oliver Putnam and Mabel Mora as neighbours, what would you expect to happen in the complex?

6 Which specific kind of tradesperson, very important for all domestic households, gets their name from the fact that he specialises in cleaning and maintaining objects that were originally made of lead?

7 Which dance gets its name from the German verb meaning to revolve and is usually performed to classical music pieces, the most famous being the Blue Danube by Johann Strauss II?

8 Which mammal is now feral in the Andamans, after originally being transported there for the timber trade in the 19th century, and has developed the capacity to swim from island to island?

9 The *'13 days'* is a political thriller based on the Cold War confrontation between the US and the Soviet Union in 1962 over the Soviets wanting to base nuclear missiles in which country?

10 After which former chief minister is the highest Indian civilian award in the field of medicine named?

ANSWERS

1 | Long Jump (6.88m)
2 | Polo shirt or polo tee
3 | Ranbaxy (from RANbir and gurBAX Singh)
4 | All the vendors are women
5 | Murders (the setting for the series, 'Only Murders in the Building')
6 | Plumbers, from Plumbum – the Latin name for lead, as Romans used lead to make their drainage systems
7 | The waltz (from walzen)
8 | Elephant (largest feral herd is currently on Interview Island)
9 | Cuba
10 | Dr BC Roy

Monsoon may weaken later in July, says IMD

Below-Normal Rain After Strong Days

Neha.Madaan
@timesofindia.com

Pune: After forecasting widespread monsoon activity over the next fortnight, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has indicated that rainfall could weaken in the second half of July, with most parts of the country likely to receive below-normal rainfall, if the current extended-range forecasts hold.

According to IMD's extended range prediction system (ERPS), the first two weeks of July are expected to bring good rainfall over the west coast and parts of central India, aided by a favourable monsoon circulation. "The coming two weeks, till around July 14, are showing good rainfall over the west coast and parts of central India. Thereafter, the current extended-range guidance suggests below-normal rainfall over most parts of the country," IMD scientist S D Sanap told **TOI**.

He stressed that rainfall activity would not disappear altogether. "Below-normal rainfall does not mean there will be no rain. Rainfall activity will continue. But the overall amounts are expected to be lower than normal," he said.

He added that rainfall distribution is also expected to shift during the second week of July, with Gujarat, the west coast and parts of northwest India likely to receive enhanced rainfall.

ANI

MONSOON JOY: A youngster sitting on a tetrapod enjoys as the seawater splashes on him amid heavy rainfall in Mumbai on Wednesday

2 dead as heavy rain batters Himachal

Kullu: Two people died and 25 pilgrims were stranded in Himachal Pradesh as heavy monsoon rainfall triggered landslides and flash floods and caused disruption across the state.

Gyan Chand, a Himachal Road Transport Corporation conductor, was killed Thursday morning after a boulder fell on him in Lahaul & Spiti district. In a separate accident, Anshtej, a 21-year-old tourist from Punjab's Kapurthala, drowned while bathing in a rivulet near Kasol in Kullu's Parvati Valley on Wednesday. Police recovered the body and launched an inquiry into the circumstances.

In Chamba's Bharmour, around 25 pilgrims returning after offering prayers to the local deity were stranded after a temporary bridge over a rivulet was washed away. Rescue teams were dispatched to the remote site, with officials working to reach the stranded group despite difficult terrain and bad weather.

A landslide blocked the Chamba-Bharmour highway, while flash floods in Pangi valley damaged crops and disrupted road connectivity. State emergency operation centre said 49 roads were blocked, including major stretches in Kullu, Sirmaur, Chamba, Lahaul-Spiti and Una. TNN

BRO builds bridge near China in bad weather

Joken Ete@timesofindia.com

Itanagar: Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed a 180ft triple-double reinforced Bailey bridge over Kumey River in Arunachal Pradesh's Kurung Kumey district, strengthening military mobility and border infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Personnel carried out the bridge launch amid heavy monsoon rain, the threat of flash floods and challenging mountain conditions.

The bridge, built on Huri-Tapa Road in Damin subdivision, aims to provide direct all-weather connectivity to forward positions along the India-China border.

In blow to AIADMK, ex-ministers join TVK

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: In a major political shake-up in Tamil Nadu, AIADMK's C Vijayabaskar and M R Vijayabhaskar, along with their former cabinet colleagues M S M Anandhan and S Valarmathi, joined chief minister Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) on Thursday.

The AIADMK functionaries were inducted into TVK in an event at a resort in Mahabalipuram. "This is just the trailer. The main picture will unfold at Pudukkottai where many more will join TVK," said C Vijayabaskar, who had brought a large number of his supporters to join the party.

He blamed AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami for the exit from AIADMK. "My colleague M R Vijayabhaskar and I urged Palaniswami to ally with TVK before the election. After the election too, we requested him to join hands with TVK. But he refused to listen to us. Instead, there was an attempt to ally with DMK. Hence, we have resigned," C Vijayabaskar told reporters.

He compared Vijay to late chief minister M G Ramachandran.

Puri: India kept fuel supplies steady despite oil shock

▶ Continued from page 1

Puri said despite these financial pressures, India maintained steady domestic fuel supplies during the crisis. While there was an 8% rise in retail fuel prices in Delhi, the minister said the increase was much higher in European countries as well as in neighbouring nations. Global oil prices remained elevated through March, April and May, and started easing from mid-June after tensions in West Asia subsided and concerns over disruption in the Strait of Hormuz eased. The Indian basket of crude touched pre-conflict levels in the last week of June.

The minister said the total under-recovery incurred by the three state-run OMCs on LPG, petrol and diesel in Q4 of FY26 and Q1 of FY27 stood at Rs 2.1 lakh crore. He added that in April-June, the under-recovery on petrol was Rs 19,905 crore, on diesel Rs 1.44 lakh crore, and on LPG Rs 24,148 crore, taking the total to over Rs 1.88 lakh crore.

To prepare for any future crises, Puri said, India has to stock up when prices are low, increase storage capacity and intensify outreach to bilateral partners. While the combined crude stocks at ports, terminals, refineries and the strategic petroleum reserve are enough to last 74 days, Puri said there is need to build more storage.

Man suffers heart attack, 2 nurses jump off bus, save him

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi: A staff nurse at a private hospital in Kerala's Ernakulam district proved to be an 'angel' for a man who suffered a heart attack and collapsed in his car in the middle of heavy traffic, as she revived him by performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until he reached hospital.

Anjali Baiju, a nurse at Apollo Adlux Hospital at Angamaly, and Aadra Raju, a nursing student at Mar Baselios Nursing College in Kothamangalam, were travelling on a bus, serendipitously named 'Angel', when they jumped out to save the life of 45-year-old Sinaj from Perumbavoor, nearly 30km from Kochi, as he fainted in his car and was stuck in traffic.

Sinaj was driving to hospital on Wednesday morning after feeling chest pain. He was shifted to an ambulance by fellow motorists when Anjali rushed to help by providing CPR. "Anjali continued to provide CPR in the ambulance until they reached the hospital," an official with Apollo Adlux Hospital said. Sinaj was given emergency medical attention at Little Flower Hospital and was stabilised, after which he underwent angioplasty for a blocked artery. "A stent was implanted on him on Wednesday itself. Today we implanted another stent and his condition is stable now," said a hospital source.

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Place: Mumbai **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER**
Date: 3rd July 2026 **(HRM & MARKETING)**
(41/26-27)

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Online Applications are invited from Indian Citizens for appointment on fixed term (contract basis) as per details given below:

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Director (Marketing)
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Last date of submission of application by applicants is by **15:00 hours on 23.07.2026**
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by **17:00 hours on 03.08.2026**
For details, login to website https://pesb.gov.in

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CONTRAPUNTO

We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad

– CS LEWIS

Not Playing God

Scientists can make a cell from scratch now. That's a useful tech for solving many global problems

Nature took more than 500mn years to make the first cell, and a few billion to arrive at intelligence thereafter. But we humans have cobbled together both in fewer than 50. Of AI we needn't say more, but news from University of Minnesota, about world's first *totally* synthetic cells, is exciting. It questions the belief that life is more than molecules plus energy. But looks like there's no secret sauce, no supernatural hand.

Sceptics may roll their eyes. It's true that, despite all the hype, AI is not really "intelligent" but only a statistical trick. And yes, the lead scientist on the synthetic cell team has said she's "hesitant to call this 'alive'". But hesitation only shows she doesn't want to oversell her team's achievement, unlike AI bros. The SpudCells they have made fulfil all three conditions to be considered alive – feeding, growing and replicating. What's the catch? The cells can't produce their own ribosomes or components that make proteins.

That's alright. Now that the project is growing into a multi-lab collaboration, more 'accomplished' cells will be made. It's a good thing that the Minnesota team decided not to patent their tech, so that others can develop it too. In May, six Asian countries – China, Japan, S Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia – had announced their own 10-year joint programme to build synthetic cells, and one of its goals is to achieve "ribosome autonomy". West and East should work together on this, setting aside geopolitics for the greater good.

How do we know artificial life won't prove harmful? When the late Craig Venter announced his intention to make a synthetic cell, in 1999, he was accused of playing Frankenstein. A few years earlier, Roslin Institute's scientists had faced the same charge over cloning Dolly the sheep. While fear of the unknown is natural, we can't turn our back on scientific frontiers. Once we master the tech of designing cells with specific traits, like turning atmospheric carbon dioxide and water vapour into ethanol, global warming and fossil fuels will become history. It's far easier than finding a microbe to do this among the billions made by nature.

Venter's team had created a synthetic cell based on a natural bacterium. Sixteen years later, Minnesota scientists have made a cell from scratch. That's steady progress. With AI, the next decade is likely to be even more fruitful. A new cellular age is starting.

EGGXACTLY

Midday meals in all states should include eggs. Reasons for that are well known

The new Bengal govt, walking on eggshells, hopes to overcome state's new school-meal contractor Iskcon's 'no-eggs' policy by providing 'extra funds' to source '*deem*'. Iskcon, through Akshaya Patra Foundation, has for years provided midday meals in various parts of the country, and doesn't deal with eggs. It has courted controversy over its 'pure' vegetarian meals. In 2019, in Karnataka, there was furore over Akshaya Patra's decision to not add garlic or onion to sambar. But is the question simply one of eggs vs vegetarian-protein options like soya, cottage cheese/paneer and lentils/dal? Not really, it's more layered. There's reasoning, not emotion, behind having eggs on the school menu.

Eggs provide high-quality protein, healthy fats and essential vitamins & minerals. Deep protein-deficiency is a pan-India burden, leading to subpar health. A key problem with plant-based proteins replacing eggs *in midday meals* is simple – consistency in quality and quantity is way harder to ensure. Eggs are tough to adulterate, or dilute, like you can, say, dal. Eggs come naturally portion-controlled, easy to source pan-India, cook and carry. Inconsistency, even in centralised kitchens, is not new. The 2015 CAG performance audit on midday meal scheme criticised Iskcon in certain states for irregularities, including meals that failed prescribed nutritional standards.

Most Indians don't subscribe to rigid norms of what they can, or cannot, eat. Eggs are especially crucial for those children whose households cannot afford protein-rich foods. School meal menus are, thus, prescribed to meet students' calorific needs. Bengal served eggs once or twice a week. Tamil Nadu, by and large, serves eggs daily. But overall inclusion of eggs is shrinking – down from 16 states about a decade ago to about 13, now. School meals are meant to nourish children, and keep them in school, not reflect dietary preferences of contractors or govts. To that end, replacing eggs with anything else, is just bad-egg policy.

The 86th minute

Why do we overthink coincidence? Because we are suckers for drama

Renuka.Bisht@timesofindia.com

There's loss. And then there's cruel fate. The two are completely different creatures. This duality is playing out in the post-mortem of World Cup exits, which draw no less passion than the wins. That Ivory Coast, DR Congo, and Senegal's hopes of reaching the Round of 16 have been dashed, is one thing. That each of them took a goal in the 86th minute to this end, that's something else, ain't it? That's the universe copy-pasting the exact same dagger, at the exact same tick of the clock, like it's hellbent on making Africa cry.

Statisticians will shrug. Because they deal in the Law of Truly Large Numbers. "The million, million, million...to one chance happens once in a million, million, million...times, no matter how surprised we may be," said the 'father' of statistics, RA Fisher. But most of us are in the Shakespeare camp. We *feel* coincidences. We can't just let them go. It could be carrying an umbrella every day for two months without rain, leaving it home once, and that day brings a downpour. Or it could be calling *your* father after meaning to ring him for weeks, only to hear a stranger answer, and tell you he collapsed moments before the phone rang. Fortune is always onstage. Sometimes playful, sometimes vindictive, forever manipulating entrances and exits.

Romeo reaches the tomb minutes too early. Othello believes the wrong story at the wrong moment. King Lear recognises the truth only after it can no longer save him. That's the difference between loss and cruel fate. Loss straightforwardly says, you weren't good enough. Cruel fate taunts, you were almost there, then the universe showed a finger. Probability theory doesn't account for how human beings experience events as stories. The first African team taking a blow in the 86th minute is a football result, the second an oddity, the third is a cosmic pattern, a hex, a curse.

What if three European giants also get knocked out in the 86th minute? Who eats humble pie then? Ummm, not Shakespeare. He would simply call it Fortune spinning her wheel. Coincidence may be the last acceptable superstition. We no longer blame eclipses on angry gods, but happily meme that Minute 86 is haunted. Football has helped us be medieval villagers again, gawping up at the scoreline, and whispering, "Well...that's a bit odd."

France's Beautiful Game

Mbappé's transformation, coupled with France's emergence as the team to beat in this World Cup, is French coach Didier Deschamps' greatest achievement yet. The quiet manager finally has a team that embraces his ideas, making them seem unstoppable

Javier Dale

Columnist based in Barcelona

When Spanish striker Fernando Morientes left Real Madrid to join Monaco on loan, his new manager made an unexpected request: he wanted him to play as a second striker. Morientes had never occupied that role before, but Didier Deschamps persisted until he convinced him. The gamble paid off. Monaco, powered by emerging talents such as Patrice Evra, Ludovic Giuly, and Emmanuel Adebayor, reached the Champions League final, while Morientes scored 19 goals in Ligue 1 and Europe from an unfamiliar position.

Years later, Deschamps brought Morientes to Olympique de Marseille as a veteran forward, not because he expected him to score goals, but because he wanted the younger players to follow his example. Morientes rarely played, yet he never stopped working. Whenever one of Marseille's youngsters began to lose motivation, Deschamps had the perfect lesson: "Look at Fernando Morientes. Three Champions League titles. Five finals. And he's still the first player to arrive at training every morning."

That is Didier Deschamps, the current France manager. He moved into coaching at just 33, while he still looked and thought more like a footballer than a manager.

Anyone who remembers Deschamps the player will recall that he was never the most gifted footballer in France's 1998 World Cup-winning side. Zidane, Djorkaeff, and Henry captured the headlines, but the midfielder was the essential piece that held everything together. He had performed exactly the same role for Marseille, winners of the 1993 Champions League, and for Juventus, when they lifted Europe's biggest trophy in 1996.

Despite leading France to the 2018 World Cup title, and another final four years later, Deschamps has spent much of the past two years under intense scrutiny. Euro 2024 and the 2025 Nations League ended in disappointment, with Zinedine Zidane repeatedly mentioned as the obvious successor. The criticism was familiar: France had become too defensive and too dependent on Kylian Mbappé producing moments of brilliance.

In many ways, Mbappé himself embodied the same problem. Back in 2020, the Real Madrid forward appeared destined to dominate world football. When he joined Paris Saint-Germain alongside Lionel Messi and Neymar, the expectation was that PSG would become unstoppable. Reality proved very different. Even after Mbappé became the club's undisputed leader, European glory remained elusive. At 27, the player tipped to inherit football from Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo still has neither a Champions League title nor a Ballon d'Or. His hat-trick in the 2022 World Cup final perfectly encapsulated his career: an extraordinary individual performance that still ended in heartbreak.

This World Cup, however, has revealed a different France and a different Mbappé. France have retained their defensive discipline, while combining the best of both worlds: explosiveness in attack and reliability at the back. That defensive reliability was perhaps the team's greatest weakness at the 2022 World Cup, where Les Bleus conceded eight goals, three of them in the final.

Mbappé has arrived at this World Cup not only as a goalscorer, but also as the symbol of a more collective France. He presses, works tirelessly without the ball, and seems to have accepted that his greatness will be defined less by individual statistics than by his contribution to the collective balance Deschamps demands. Even before the tournament began, the French media were already describing a "reconfigured" Mbappé for a national team whose "collective virtues" were being highlighted by *Le Parisien*. The tournament has done nothing but confirm those predictions.

France's defensive system under Deschamps is built on balance, discipline, and collective effort. With Aurélien Tchouaméni protecting central areas, and William Saliba providing composure at the back, Les Bleus stay compact without the ball, recover their shape quickly, and turn defensive reliability into a platform for their explosive attacking talent.

The group stage and the round of 32 have showcased a side capable of combining attacking flair with collective discipline. Michael Olise, Mbappé, and Ousmane Dembélé have formed one of the tournament's most exciting attacking trios, yet all three have also embraced the defensive responsibilities that modern football demands.

Deschamps has also benefitted enormously from Dembélé's remarkable transformation at Paris Saint-Germain, where Luis Enrique has taught him how to understand the game. The forward who once seemed lost to football after leaving FC Barcelona, has learned under the Spaniard that being a great footballer is not about being a *Human Highlight Instagram Reel*, but about becoming a player his teammates can rely on in every phase of the game.

Perhaps Deschamps has even recreated, with Mbappé, the conversation he once had with Morientes in Marseille: "Look, Kylian. That's Ousmane Dembélé. Two Champions League titles. A Ballon d'Or. And he still works as if he were playing his very first professional match."

That is the new France. Deschamps no longer needs to impose rigid defensive discipline simply to compensate for the complacency of his biggest stars. Instead, he has learned to trust his players – because they have finally shown they deserve that trust.

Managing a national team is unlike coaching a club. There is no daily training ground where ideas can be drilled into players. Success depends largely on what footballers absorb at their clubs, and whether they are willing to embrace the manager's vision when they come together.

Deschamps now appears closer than ever to achieving exactly that. The quiet, understated coach is the strategic mind behind Les Bleus' latest assault on the World Cup.

Dale is a sports writer for La Vanguardia, a Spanish newspaper

How To Let Your Parent Have Their Kama

We allow our elders to age, but not to love. When ancient Indian philosophy, Taoist docs, modern science all say intimacy in later life is a vital part of human flourishing, don't cage it in silence instead

Swami Shivdas

A man of 68 came to see me last winter, a little more than a year after he had lost his wife of four decades. He had met someone – a widow of his own age, at a music class his daughter had enrolled him in, precisely so that he would leave the house. They drank tea after class on Tuesdays. That was all. Yet, when he finally spoke of it, his first question was not about love, or loneliness, or even propriety. It was: "What will my children think?"

A few weeks later, a woman in her late fifties asked me, almost in a whisper, whether intimacy was "permitted" after her husband's cardiac surgery. His heart had healed. What had not healed was the guilt – the unspoken verdict of a household in which, after a certain age and a certain scare, desire is expected to retire quietly, like an employee past 60, garlanded once and never invited back.

Neither of these people is unusual, and that is the point. All around us, a widowed or separated parent is quietly, only quietly, considering a companion. In many a marriage, one partner has lost desire, while the other has quietly found compatibility elsewhere. The elderly are negotiating tenderness after separation. Everyone knows – family, friends, the WhatsApp groups. What is missing is the licence to speak.

The silence is enforced – gently, lovingly, with devastating efficiency. Three locks close over the private life of an adult in an Indian family. The family locks first: what will this do to the household, the children's marriages, the property? Society locks second: what will people say? Religion locks third, often without being consulted – we assume our traditions are prudish and censor ourselves on their behalf.

Here is the irony: those traditions were braver than we are. Our civilisation placed kama – desire, including sexual desire – among the four legitimate aims of life, alongside dharm, arth and moksh. Vatsyayan wrote a treatise on it with the seriousness of a grammarian. Our temple walls carry union carved in stone by artisans who did not expect the visitor to faint.

Far to the east, Taoist physicians studied intimacy with the same curiosity they brought to food and breath. Human vitality, they taught, rests on three pillars – what we eat, how we breathe, and how we love. Neglect one, and the other two cannot carry the weight.

What did those physicians know? Strip away the vocabulary and a strikingly modern idea emerges: vitality is an economy, keep a budget. Their famous age-graded prescriptions were never a rationing of intimacy, but counselled changing rhythm with age: as much as keeps body and mind in balance – no more, no less. After intimacy, ask how you feel. Calm, energised, affectionate? The rhythm is right. Depleted, irritable, restless? Adjust. The body gives the verdict, the age calendar is only a hint.

THE GREAT UNSPOKEN
Conversations we need to have

MORNING SUN: A 1952 painting by Edward Hopper

Modern science is arriving at the same door from the other side. Study after study links warm intimacy in later life with better cardiovascular health, better mood, better sleep, even sharper cognition, and links loneliness with outcomes we would treat as a public-health emergency if a virus caused them. When researchers tell us chronic loneliness damages the elderly as much as heavy smoking, they are restating, in the language of journals, what the Taoist masters said in the language of rivers: life-force that is dammed does not stay fresh.

The river is the best image we have for this subject. Only a flowing river stays clean. Desire is a current of life, like appetite and sleep, it must flow in its own hour and then move on. We do not think about food all day. That would be illness, not appetite. Obsession, the mind that circles fantasy all day, is a foully stagnant pool. But so is suppression, desire denied so fiercely that it backs up into bitterness, irritability, a strange deadness that families sense but do not acknowledge. The old teachers called the goal completion, not repression – the act honoured in its own time, and the mind then returning, naturally, to work, to family, to prayer, to life.

Which brings me back to the man at the music class. What stands between him and his Tuesday companion is not scripture, nor his physician, who would cheer. It is a ledger: the unspoken arithmetic by which a new companion has been weighed against the estate, and the unspoken verdict that his chapter is closed. But a family's wealth should serve its elders' lives, not stand guard over their solitude.

And here is what I have noticed when these conversations finally happen, between husband and wife, between grown child and ageing parent, between patient and doctor. What follows is almost never scandal. It is relief.

Remember, the river that flows stays clean, the pool that stagnates turns foul. Our traditions knew it, our sciences confirm it. Somewhere between the two, our families forgot it. The journey from guilt to awareness begins, like every journey out of silence, with one spoken sentence.

Calvin & Hobbes

Sacred*space*

Even a sheet of paper has two sides.

Japanese Proverb

Can AI Outshine Human Imagination?

Aditya Mukherjee

Recently, a controversy erupted after Trinidadian author Jamir Nazir's award-winning story, *The Serpent in the Grove*, thrust the literary world into a profound debate: if AI can help produce prize-winning fiction, what becomes of creativity, originality, and human imagination?

On July 1, Nazir won the overall Commonwealth Short Story Prize, a decision that largely dispelled doubts about the story's originality and use of AI. The author himself has consistently denied using generative AI, explaining that because of health constraints, he relied on speech-to-text tech while writing. It cannot be entirely ruled out that bias against non-native writers in English also have contributed to the controversy.

For centuries, literature has been regarded as one of the purest expressions of human consciousness. A writer's imagination is shaped by suffering, longing, loneliness, love, failure and hope. Great literature has traditionally emerged not from mechanical efficiency but from emotional depth.

Nazir's story, set in rural Trinidad and centred on a cocoa farmer and a young woman named Sita, explores silence, endurance and emotional isolation. These are profoundly human themes rooted in lived experience. It is precisely this that has unsettled many writers and critics. As AI-assisted writing becomes increasingly sophisticated, where should the boundary between genuine creativity and technological assistance be drawn?

THE SPEAKING TREE

Photography was once expected to destroy painting, cinema to eclipse theatre and TV to kill books. Yet art survived each disruption by adapting to new realities. Human creativity proved more resilient than the anxieties surrounding new tools.

AI, however advanced, does not dream, suffer or experience life. It can analyse patterns and generate language, but cannot know heartbreak, nostalgia or the weight of memory. Human beings do not merely produce words; they attach meaning to existence.

Shakespeare perhaps captured humanity's uniqueness best in *Hamlet*: "What a piece of work is a man! how noble in reason! how infinite in faculty!" Creativity is not simply the elegant arrangement of words. It also involves moral imagination, emotional ambiguity and the ability to transform personal experience into universal truth.

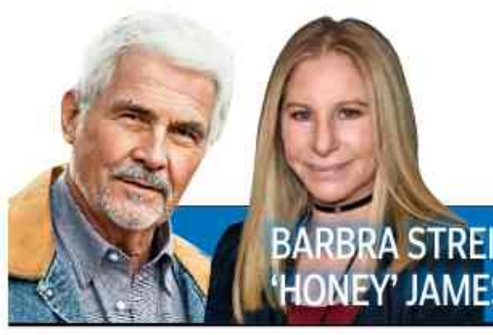
Literary prizes honour imagination, artistic vision, craftsmanship. Readers also place their trust in the work reflecting a distinctive human sensibility. As AI-assisted tools become more common, greater transparency about their use may help preserve that trust while safeguarding authors' creative integrity.

The deeper challenge may not be technological but civilisational. We live in an age obsessed with speed, productivity and instant output, whereas genuine creativity demands patience, introspection and solitude. AI is merely the latest expression of this deeper cultural impulse. In the end, the debate surrounding Nazir is not merely about one story or literary prize. It raises important questions about authorship, artistic integrity and the evolving relationship between tech and creativity. Tech may transform the tools of writing, but the deepest impulse behind storytelling remains uniquely human.

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026

THERE IS NO MAN LIVING
THAT CAN NOT DO MORE
THAN HE THINKS HE CAN
— HENRY FORD



BARBRA STREISAND CELEBRATES 28 YEARS OF MARRIAGE TO 'HONEY' JAMES BROLIN, POSTS 'WHERE HAS THE TIME GONE?'

MADONNA TAKES SWIPE AT EX-HUBBY SEAN PENN IN HER NEW ALBUM 'CONFESSIONS II', ACCUSES HIM OF BEING 'THREATENED BY HER FAME'

OpenAI proposes 5% stake for US govt: Report

Sam Altman-led OpenAI had previously proposed a 'public wealth fund' to invest in AI companies and distribute its returns to American citizens

OpenAI has discussed giving the US govt a 5% stake, the Financial Times reported on Thursday, as AI firms face scrutiny in Washington over the likely misuse of advanced models and whether Americans would benefit from the industry's massive valuations. The ChatGPT creator has proposed that other US AI firms also give Washington similar stakes, although it is unclear whether they would agree, the report said, citing two people familiar with the talks.

The move follows growing public backlash in the US over AI's potential to cause economic upheaval, including layoffs, and could help OpenAI sweeten ties with an administration increasingly taking an active role in regulating the technology. A Trump administration request prompted OpenAI to delay the wide release of its latest AI model, GPT-5.6, last week, days after rival Anthropic suspended access to its most advanced models, including Fable 5, due to a govt order to keep the technology out of the hands of foreign nationals. The US removed curbs on Anthropic's AI models on Tuesday.

OpenAI, Anthropic, Google-parent Alphabet, xAI owner SpaceX and the White House did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Managing regulatory uncertainty is critical for OpenAI and Anthropic ahead of their planned initial public offerings. Last month, President Trump said he was exploring options to give the public a stake in leading AI firms, in response to concerns that individual Americans will not share in the sector's expected profits.

US senator Bernie Sanders has also advocated for govt taking 50% stake in big AI companies, arguing the technology is built on human knowledge used without permission and compensation. Forrester analyst Indranil Bandyopadhyay said a pre-IPO govt stake could ease investor risk concerns about regulation in the US but may trigger similar demands from other countries.

"Expect other jurisdictions to demand analogous arrangements as a condition of market access and expect enterprise buyers in Europe and Asia-Pacific to reassess data sovereignty and neutrality assumptions about US model providers."

The structure OpenAI executives have suggested would see leading US AI firms allot 5% of equity to a vehicle modelled on the Alaska Permanent Fund, a state-owned corporation seeded with oil revenue that pays annual dividends to residents and helps fund Alaska's budget, the report said.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman has discussed the proposed stake with Trump, commerce secretary Howard Lutnick and treasury secretary Scott Bessent, the FT said.

OpenAI had previously proposed a "public wealth fund" to invest in AI companies and distribute returns to citizens, while Anthropic has floated a "digital dividend", or payments to Americans funded by taxes on the AI sector.

A US stake in OpenAI would add the company to a growing list with govt as a shareholder. The administration has been working to secure US supply chains for critical minerals and semiconductors by converting federal grants into equity, as part of a broader push to reduce reliance on China. Last year, it took a roughly 10% stake in Intel and a 15% holding in MP Materials, among others. REUTERS

Iran warns oil tankers to use approved routes in Hormuz

Dubai: Iran's joint military command warned on Thursday that all oil tankers moving through the Strait of Hormuz must use its approved routes or face a "forceful response," ratcheting up tensions again over a waterway crucial for international energy supplies. The strait, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf, has emerged as one of the top issues in negotiations seeking a permanent end to the Iran war. The statement from the Khatam al-Anbiya military command, reported by Iranian state television, comes after both US and Iranian diplomats met with mediators Wednesday in Qatar.

It wasn't immediately clear what sparked the threat from Iran. However, the US military's Central Command had put out a statement about a meeting with officials from West Asian nations in Bahrain that said "leaders underscored their shared commitment to the free flow of commerce through" the strait.

That appears to have been the phrase that angered Iran. "Any failure to comply, deviation from the designated route, or disregard for the navigation protocols of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Strait of Hormuz will be met with an immediate and forceful response from the armed forces, endangering the security of the violating vessels," the Iranian statement said. It also said the continued presence of US fighter jets over the strait "causes insecurity in this waterway and threatens regional security." AP

Russia bombards Kyiv in one of war's biggest strikes, at least 21 dead

AFP

A man looks at the ruins of a building hit by a Russian air attack in Kyiv

Kyiv: Russia launched hundreds of drones and dozens of missiles at Ukraine's capital Kyiv in the early hours Thursday, killing at least 21 people, wounding scores more and damaging around 130 buildings in one of the biggest attacks of the war. Multiple explosions shook central Kyiv and reverberated across the capital throughout the night as thousands of residents rushed to bomb shelters and underground metro stations. Huge columns of smoke filled the skyline.

The attack was the deadliest in Kyivsince at least May, and the wide spread of destruction across the breadth of the capital had little precedent even in a war now in its fifth year. President Zelensky, who cut short his visit to Ireland and rushed home, visited a site on the city's left bank where a nine-storey residential building was half destroyed. He blamed the destruction in part on a failure of allies to deliver promised air defences. "If our partners had delivered on their promises in a timely manner, I think we could have saved more homes and lives today," said Zelensky. "All we ask of our partners is simply to do what we've agreed on. We're not even asking for more."

Russia launched 74 missiles and 496 drones overnight, the Ukrainian air force said. Yuri Ihnat, the Air Force spokesperson, said the number of ballistic missiles was unusually high and the interception rate for them was low. Ukraine has struggled with shortages of Patriot missiles in recent months. The Russian defence ministry, in a Telegram post, said its "massive attack" using long-range, high-precision air-, land- and sea-launched weapons and drones hit military and energy facilities, as well as airports in Kyiv and other locations. Moscow said the attacks were retaliation for Ukrainian drone strikes on Russia. REUTERS

Eight days after quakes, a guard is pulled alive from Venezuelan bldg

AP

Rescuers attend to Gil Flores

Catia La Mar (Venezuela): Rescuers pulled a 43-year-old security guard alive from a collapsed basement early on Thursday, ending a gruelling days-long operation that became a symbol of hope after the devastation of twin earthquakes that struck Venezuela eight days earlier.

Hernan Alberto Gil Flores was extracted safely after being trapped since June 24 under the rubble in the basement of the Galerias Playa Grande shopping center in the coastal town in La Guaira. Rescuers initially made contact with him over the weekend. Teams carrying flags from across the world cheered as rescuers carried Gil, wearing an oxygen mask on a stretcher covered in an orange tarp, through throngs of people into an ambulance.

The rescue was considered a small miracle. With teams sustaining him with food and water while they excavated the concrete, they were able to keep him alive far longer than the 48-to-72-hour threshold most rescue operations give to find survivors in disasters. Gil Flores worked as a night-shift security guard at the complex, and was inside his small security cabin when the first violent tremor struck. While the surrounding concrete structure collapsed around him, his workstation cabin held ground, shielding him from crushing debris and creating a vital pocket of air. AP

Trump's big bang theory: Patriotism over pollution

Washington Ready For Biggest Pyrotechnics In History In Stifling Heat

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Getty Images via AFP

A US Air Force Thunderbirds demonstration squadron fly over the Lincoln Memorial. Meteorologists are predicting afternoon highs to touch 40°C

Washington: Some two centuries after Tipu Sultan's Mysore projectiles, parlayed by the British into Congreve missiles, led Francis Scott Key to note the "rocket's red glare" in "The Star Spangled Banner", the US capital is about to discover that fireworks, no matter where they come from, are no fun on a fiendishly hot summer night.

As temperatures in much of the US are forecast to hit record highs on July 4, the US govt is pressing ahead with what it promises will be the biggest pyrotechnics gala in history to mark America's 250th birthday, an extravaganza so big it aims to earn a Guinness World Record while simultaneously testing the atmosphere's capacity to absorb smoke.

Washingtonians are accustomed to spectacular Independence Day displays over the National Mall. This year, however, "spectacular" is being bumped up to "supersized". Organisers say more than 860,000 pyrotechnic effects will light up the skies during a 40-minute finale, roughly 50 times the number used in a typical Fourth of July celebration, which usually features 17,000 to 20,000 shells over less than 20 minutes.

The Pennsylvania-based fireworks company Pyrotecnico has brought in more than 50 truckloads of fireworks, with launches coordinated from the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, West Potomac Park and eight barges anchored on the Potomac River.

Environmentalists, however, are not impressed. Fireworks are essentially colourful chemical explosions, releasing clouds of fine particulate matter, sulphur compounds, heavy metals and greenhouse gases into the air. Studies have shown that air pollution spikes dramatically during major fireworks displays, sometimes reaching levels considered unhealthy, particularly for children, older adults and people with respiratory illnesses.

Meteorologists are predicting afternoon highs to touch 104°F (40°C), with a stagnant air index that already has local pulmonologists hyperventilating. In Washington, a city built on an actual swamp, high heat traps particulate matter close to the ground, creating a toxic dome of ozone and smog. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), currently operating under leadership that views carbon emissions as a minor irritant, has remained predictably sanguine. Activists warn that the massive release of fine particulate matter (PM2.5), barium, copper, and strontium will spike air toxicity levels to "hazardous" within minutes of the grand finale, but no one in the administration is particularly exercised about it. In the Trump universe, if the air gets a little smoky, or the thermometers threaten to melt, it is simply proof that America is generating more energy than anyone else.

The irony is especially striking because Trump has made little secret of his disdain for global warming. Since returning to office, his administration has continued dismantling climate initiatives, encouraged expanded fossil-fuel production, rolled back emissions rules and argued that regulations unnecessarily burden economic growth. To supporters, who accuse critics of "pissing on the parade", the July 4 spectacle represents unapologetic American confidence. To progressives, it's like celebrating conservation by setting a national park on fire.

Adding to the controversy is the cost. According to internal documents first reported by the Washington Post, the federal govt is spending about $1.6 million on this year's fireworks display, more than five times the roughly $270,000 typically spent on Washington's Independence Day fireworks.

If Washington succeeds in setting a world record for the largest fireworks display ever staged — under a president who has spent years imposing tariffs on Chinese imports while urging Americans to "buy American" — there is a fair chance that many of those thunderous explosions celebrating American independence will have begun their journey in Chinese factories. For one glorious evening, the loudest sound in Washington may be the unmistakable boom of patriotism, powered, at least in part, by imports from the country America now regards as its principal strategic rival.

Beijing pushes for a China-Pak-style eco corridor with B'desh and Myanmar

Ahsan Tasnim

The corridor proposes to strengthen connectivity, particularly multimodal transport links from China's Kunming to Bangladeshi ports

Dhaka: China said Thursday it is "determined" to build an economic corridor with Bangladesh and Myanmar, but remains open to "other countries" joining its "transnational initiative" — a project on India's eastern flank that mirrors the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor's (CPEC) strategic role on its western frontier.

The corridor — discussed during Bangladesh PM Tarique Rahman's recent visit to China — proposes to strengthen connectivity, particularly multimodal transport links from China's Kunming to Bangladeshi ports, including Mongla that Dhaka, after scrapping a deal with India, handed over to Beijing the contract to develop an economic zone. "Dhaka and Beijing have also agreed to explore a '2+2' dialogue mechanism on diplomacy and defence", Chinese ambassador to Bangladesh Yao Wen told reporters.

On the proposed corridor — which, if implemented, would give China access to the Bay of Bengal like CPEC does to the Arabian Sea — Yao said the idea of building such a project is not new. "There were discussions on a Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) Economic Corridor, but there was no progress," he said, referring to an abandoned 1999 plan that proposed linking the nations through road, rail, water and air.

"This (China-Bangladesh) cooperation is not the end of the game. We are open, and we welcome other countries if they are ready to join. But it is up to them to decide if they want to be part of it or whether they prefer to wait," he said.

Relations between China and Bangladesh have been on the upswing since 2024 — when Sheikh Hasina was ousted as PM — with both sides engaging in several crucial initiatives, including defence — some like Teesta river restoration project and reports of Chinese assistance in developing the Lalmonirhat airbase near India's eastern border, a deal to establish a drone manufacturing and technology transfer plant in Dhaka, and the Mongla port contract drawing New Delhi's attention.

Google loses fight against record €4.1bn EU antitrust fine

Brussels: Alphabet's Google on Thursday lost its legal fight against a record fine imposed by EU antitrust regulators eight years ago for using its Android mobile operating system to block rivals.

The European Commission had originally handed out a €4.3 billion fine to Google in 2018 for its agreements which forced phone manufacturers to pre-install Google Search, the Chrome browser and the Google Play app store on their Android devices and prevented them from using rival Android systems. A lower tribunal subsequently trimmed the fine to €4.1 billion in 2022 after Google challenged the EU penalty. Google then appealed to the Luxembourg-based Court of Justice of the European Union, Europe's highest. The court sided with the EU antitrust enforcer. "The appeal brought by Google and its parent company Alphabet is dismissed," judges said.

A Google spokesperson said that the judgment failed to take into account its investment to ensure Android remains open, interoperable and free. "In any event, we adapted our agreements to comply with the initial decision back in 2018 and we remain focused on continued innovation and openness for our users, partners and developers", Google said. REUTERS

US proposes 33% hike in EB-5 invt threshold for projects in high-unemployment areas to $1.4m

Lubna Kably | TNN

Investment Category	Current Amount	Proposed Amount
High-employment (non-TEA) projects	$1.05m	$1.4m
Targeted Employment Area (TEA) projects	$800,000	No change
Infrastructure projects	$800,000	No change

A growing number of Indian H-1B visa holders are seeking US permanent residency through the investment-linked EB-5 immigrant investor program. Most EB-5 investments are made through Regional Centres, which pool investor funds into large development projects. The surge in interest is driven not only by the prospect of greater certainty over their immigration status but also by a grandfathering provision that expires in Sept 2026.

Against this backdrop, a recent proposal by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to raise the minimum investment for projects in high-employment areas by 33% to $1.4 million, from the current $1.05 million, is likely to affect only prospective investors who have not yet initiated the EB-5 process.

EB-5 investors must also create at least 10 full-time jobs for US workers. Under the DHS proposal, the minimum investment for projects located in Targeted Employment Areas (TEAs)—which include rural and high-unemployment locations—as well as qualifying infrastructure projects, would remain unchanged at $800,000. Since the overwhelming majority of Indian EB-5 investors invest through TEA Regional Centre projects, many may continue to qualify under the lower investment threshold if the proposal is finalised.

"For most prospective EB-5 investors, particularly those investing through Regional Centres in targeted employment areas, the proposal does not alter the $800,000 investment threshold. Instead, it strengthens regulatory oversight and provides greater clarity on how the program will operate," Mitch Wexler, senior counsel at Fragomen, a global immigration law firm, told **TOI**.

Although the EB-5 Regional Centre Program has been authorized until Sept 30, 2027, its long-term future remains uncertain as Congress will need to extend the program beyond that date. Immigration attorneys point out that under the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act (RIA) of 2022, investors who file their EB-5 investor petition on or before Sept 30, 2026, are protected by the Act's grandfathering provision, ensuring that they remain on track for an investment linked green card even if the Regional Centre Program subsequently lapses.

If the DHS proposal is finalised, investors who file before the revised investment thresholds take effect would generally remain subject to the current investment amounts. Immigration attorneys say relatively few investors may ultimately be affected because many are already rushing to file before the Sept 30, 2026 grandfathering deadline.

The proposed rule largely codifies provisions that Congress enacted through the RIA. It also strengthens oversight of Regional Centres by expanding audit powers, introducing more stringent compliance obligations, requiring biometrics for certain applicants and Regional Centre personnel, and tightening rules governing promoters. The proposal has been published for public comment for 60 days, following which DHS will review the feedback before issuing a final rule.

Govt: Pilot who hit Beijing's tower had written about 'ending his life'

Beijing: The pilot who flew a small plane into Beijing's tallest building last week wrote in his diary about "ending his life," Chinese authorities said Thursday. Their investigation concluded that the cause of last Friday's crash was "personal reasons," according to a statement posted on social media by Beijing's Chaoyang district govt.

The pilot, a 66-year-old man, died and 13 other people were injured. The pilot, identified only by the surname Liu, first flew with someone else in the two-seat training plane, then took off on a solo flight, the Chaoyang statement said. He deviated from the planned flight path and contact with him was lost, it said. Liu had no fixed job, was divorced and lived alone, according to the statement. AP

DAILY PLANET

Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce to tie the knot today: Report

Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce will have their wedding at Madison Square Garden on Friday night, according to a law enforcement official briefed on the security plans. The festivities will kick off with a smaller rehearsal dinner planned for Thursday night, the official said. The person spoke to AP on the condition of anonymity. Speculation about the superstar singer and football player's nuptials has built to a frenzy in recent days, following weeks of unconfirmed reports that it would take place over July Fourth weekend at one of New York's iconic landmarks. In recent days, crews have been unloading equipment from trucks outside the Manhattan arena. A large carpet was briefly unveiled outside one entrance and then promptly removed. Still, nothing has been publicly confirmed by the couple, despite multiple requests from the AP to Swift's representative for comment, including on Wednesday.

Couple caned for kissing on TikTok in Indonesia's Aceh

A young couple in Indonesia's conservative Aceh province were publicly caned on Thursday after an Islamic Shariah court convicted them of violating Islamic law by kissing during a TikTok livestream. Aceh's Sharia court ordered the two people to be whipped with a rattan cane 21 times each for kissing without being married. At least a hundred people witnessed the caning. The couple, a 22-year-old man and a 25-year-old woman, were arrested in April after a Feb 27 livestream in which they kissed in a car in Banda Aceh went viral and prompted reports to local Sharia authorities. Aceh is the only province in Muslim-majority Indonesia that enforces a version of Islamic law.

Thailand denies claim that Macron knelt before king

Thailand's foreign ministry denied Thursday that French President Macron knelt before the country's king during his state visit to Paris this week, after an AI-generated picture circulated online. King Maha Vajiralongkorn and Queen Suthida's trip was the first official visit by a Thai monarch to France since 1960. During a state dinner at the presidential palace, Macron presented the king with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour — France's highest award — and the queen with the Grand Cross of the National Order of Merit, according to Thai media. An image widely circulated online in Thailand purported to show Macron kneeling as he presented the awards.

68 women MPs in Japan had 2 toilets at parl. After petition they have 4

Japan's parliament will get two more women's toilet cubicles, officials said Thursday, after a petition by 58 female MPs called for more facilities to match their improved representation. In Japan, gender roles are rigid and women are chronically under-represented in politics, with just 68 women lawmakers elected out of 465 seats up for grabs at the last lower house election in Feb.

Govt says it wants to have women in at least 30% of the legislative seats. "The toilet next to the main chamber has only two individual cubicles for women, but the number will be expanded to four" after the current Diet session ends on July 17, a lower house spokeswoman said in a statement.

She added, without wishing to be named, that plans to add more stalls on other floors were also under consideration.

"I welcome the move to improve, if only a little, the sheer shortage of women's restrooms for Diet staff and secretaries as well," Hideko Nishioka, the only woman on the committee involved in approving the expansion, told local media.

The cross-party petition, whose 58 signatories included Japan's first woman PM **Sanae Takaichi**, was submitted in December to the lower house committee on rules and administration. "Before plenary sessions start, so many women lawmakers queue up in front of the restroom," one of the signatories, Yasuko Komiyama from the opposition Constitutional Democratic Party, said at the time.

The Diet building was finished in 1936, nearly a decade before women got the vote in December 1945 following Japan's defeat in World War II. The entire lower house building has 12 men's toilets with 67 stalls and nine women's facilities with a total of 22 cubicles, according to the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper.

Japan ranked 118 out of 148 last year in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report. Women are also grossly under-represented in business and the media. In elections, women candidates say that they often have to deal with sexist jibes, including being told that they should be at home looking after children. AFP

KERALA TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE LTD
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

No: KTIL/Projects/2026-27/EOI_1 July 03, 2026

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF FIRMS FOR URBAN DESIGN, CONSERVATION AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE CONSULTANCY IN UPCOMING PROJECTS

The Kerala Tourism Infrastructure Limited (KTIL) invites Expressions of Interest (EOI No. KTIL/Projects/2026-27/EOI-1) from competent firms for empanelment as Consultants in Urban Design, Conservation, and Landscape Architecture for upcoming projects. Firms must fulfil the eligibility criteria prescribed in the EOI document. The detailed EOI document can be downloaded from the KTIL website (www.ktil.in).

Interested applicants should submit their EOIs on or before 5 PM on 03.08.2026. For further information, please contact us at 0471-2336233 or email us at office@ktil.in. For updates, visit: www.ktil.in

Sd/-
Managing Director, KTIL
4th Floor, Vipanchika Tower, Thycaud P.O.,
Thiruvananthapuram - 695014

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP Mode only)

General Manager (Civil), Corporate office, BESCOM invites tender for the following work through KPPP mode for Tender No: **BESCOM/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT1148. Name of the work:** Renovation of Ladies and Gents and officers Toilets of all floors, GM(QS&S) section at second floor and legal section at ground floor and other allied works at Block II Building, corporate office, BESCOM, Bengaluru.

Approximate Amount put to tender (Excluding GST): **Rs.105.72 Lakhs.**

Last Date for Submission of Tenders: **18.07.2026**

Further details of the tender can be obtained from website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on hyperlink "E-Procurement" on or after **04.07.2026.**

For any BESCOM related Complaints Call: 1912
Please Download BESCOM Mitra Mobile App

Sd/-
General Manager (Civil), BESCOM, Bengaluru

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

S. No.	Tender No. and Due Date	Description	Quantity (Nos./Sets)	EMD (Rs.)
1.	12261176 27.07.2026	Set of Window Inner Frame for LHB SCN, LHB GS & LHB SLRD Amrit Bharat Coaches (03 Types)	61 Sets 72 Sets 21 Sets	3,44,360/-
2.	12261149A 23.07.2026	Windows for Non AC Coaches	2248 Nos.	11,27,380/-
3.	12261127 28.07.2026	Set of FRP Panels for Side Wall/Flat Ceiling for MEMU Coaches (4 Types)	403 Sets 100 Sets 137 Sets 76 Sets	4,12,980/-
4.	02261303 29.07.2026	Supply and Installation of one number of Aerosol Generator 500 GMS		4,82,860/-
5.	02261301 04.08.2026	Emergency Talk Back Unit (ETBU)		6,35,100/-
6.	17261223 22.07.2026	Set of SS Items for WEC Coach of Bangladesh Railway	68 Sets	1,99,820/-
7.	12261102A 27.07.2026	Set of Seats for 3-Phase MEMU/TC & MEMU/DMC Coaches (2 Types)	82 Sets 258 Sets	20,00,000/-
8.	12261145A 30.07.2026	Arrangement of UIC Rubber Vestibule	743 Nos.	9,70,560/-
9.	02261293 28.07.2026	Condensed Aerosol based Fire Detection & Suppression System & Associated Accessories		1,82,520/-
10.	14261058 27.07.2026	Epoxy based Elastified Top Coat (2 Components)	180420.00 Litre	6,11,880/-
11.	14261057 23.07.2026	Adhesion Promoting Primer	159214.00 Litre	8,41,670/-
12.	12261162 03.08.2026	Supply and Installation of one Coach Set of Entrance Hand Rail for Train Set MC, TC, NDTC/EC & NDTC/EC2 Coaches	174 Sets	2,83,350/-
13.	17261277 27.07.2026	Supply & Fitment of Set of Mounting Arrangement of Compartment Door for AC 3T Amrit Bharat Coaches	100 Sets	1,03,680/-
14.	12261184 10.08.2026	HT Compartment SS Hatch Door	73 Nos.	1,18,880/-
		HT Compartment SS Hatch Door	73 Nos.	
15.	13265108 23.07.2026	Stretch Forming Machine for Roof Arch Bending. PL No./ Item Code : 659044890019	01 No.	1,28,840/-
16.	12261138 23.07.2026	Foot Step Arrangement for MEMU/TC 3-Phase Coache	1842 Nos.	2,72,480/-
17.	02261290 29.07.2026	Supply, Testing and Commissioning (including all Connections and Dressing W/O Loading) of Set of Panel (Switch Board Cabinet) for LHB EOG Non AC Coach		7,35,380/-
18.	02261118A 28.07.2026	Harness of Underframe and Roof Arrangement for LHB Power Car Type Coaches		7,28,110/-
19.	05261327 04.08.2026	1. Under Frame Complete for Vande Bharat DTC Coach	12 Nos.	20,00,000/-
		2. Under Frame Complete for Vande Bharat NDTCEC Coaches	10 Nos.	
		3. Under Frame Complete for Vande Bharat MC Coaches	40 Nos.	
		4. Under Frame Complete for Vande Bharat TC Coaches	21 Nos.	
20.	05261461 24.07.2026	Set of Endwall Complete for HSPART Coaches	10 Sets	1,51,590/-
21.	05261409 21.07.2026	Set of Side Buffer Assly	149 Sets	6,83,940/-
22.	05261425 20.07.2026	Set of Pillar Assembly	152 Sets	1,64,810/-
23.	05261342A 03.08.2026	Nose Cone for MEMU DMC 3-Phase Coaches	134 Sets	20,00,000/-

1. For details and making on-line bids, visit website **http://ireps.gov.in**. Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in**. Class III-b digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in**. **2.** Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and tenders will be opened at 14.30 hrs. Tender at Sl. No. 1 to 20 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sl. No. 21 to 23 at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. **3.** For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them. **PCMM**

CORRIGENDUM

Tenderers may please note the following changes in 1. Tender No. 17261018A for Procurement of Design, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Interior Furnishing Items of One Rake Set for HS-SPART, Due date to be read as 06.07.2026 instead of 25.06.2026. **2.** Tender No. 17261199 for Procurement of Manufacture, Supply, Installation and Supervision of Interior Furnishings, Fittings, Driver's Cab's Furnishing of High-Speed Self Propelled Inspection Car (HS-SPIC), Due date to be read as 10.07.2026 instead of 30.06.2026. **3.** Tender No. 17261094 for Procurement of Supply and Installation of Interior Furnishing of One Rake Set of Namo Bharat Rapid Rail (16 Car Formation), Due date to be read as 09.07.2026 instead of 29.06.2026. **4.** Tender No. 17251269A for Procurement of Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Testing & CAMC of Fire Detection cum Suppression System (FDSS) in Toilet of Non-AC Coaches, Due date to be read as 13.07.2026 instead of 03.07.2026. **5.** Tender No. 17251268A for Procurement of Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Testing & CAMC of Automatic Fire/Smoke Detection System for ICF Non-AC Coaches, Due date to be read as 13.07.2026 instead of 03.07.2026. **6.** Tender No. 17251398A for Procurement of Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Testing & CAMC of Automatic Fire/Smoke Detection System for MEMU/EMU/DEMU Rake (1 Rake Consist of 12 Coaches), Due date to be read as 13.07.2026 instead of 03.07.2026. **All other terms & conditions will remain the same.** **PCMM**

R.O. No. 35-S/2026-27 **Dated 02.07.2026**

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
262713 002089	Procurement of Sulphuric Acid for Unit-I & Unit-II	10.07.2026

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only Detailed Terms & Conditions are available in tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / www.tntenders.gov.in / nicgep/app**

DIPR/2182/Tender/2026 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Mobile No. 96461-10914)

E-Tender Enq. No. 7828/P-1/EMP-13374 dated 01.07.2026

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2026_POWER_171146_1 for Procurement of T&P (Hydraulic Jacks) for various offices of Coal Handling Plant, GGSSTP, Roopnagar for the year 2026-27. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 02.07.2026 from 05.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

RTP-64/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/12912

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
6/13/1, 10th Block, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560072, Ph:080-22282220,
email: kredlmd@gmail.com, www.kredl.karnataka.gov.in

No: KREDL/07/SG-1702/2GW Solar with 1GWhr BESS/2026 Dated:03.07.2026

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited hereby invites bids for Selection of Developer for establishment of 2GW Solar PV Plant with 1GWh BESS (dispatchable capacity)at Ryapte, Pavagada Taluk, Tumakuru District in Karnataka, duly interconnecting to proposed 400/220kV KPTCL Ryapte sub-station, awarded under Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) for procurement of Power by ESCOMs. The project shall be developed in following 6 Blocks:

Sl. No.	Block	Solar in MW	BESS in MW/MWh
1	Block-1	500	125/250
2	Block-2	500	125/250
3	Block-3	250	62.5/125
4	Block-4	250	62.5/125
5	Block-5	250	62.5/125
6	Block-6	250	62.5/125
Total		**2000**	**500/1000**

Bid documents will be available in the Bharat Electronic Tender Portal **(https://www.bharat-electronictender.com) on or after 06.07.2026.** The Last date for submission of bids **is 07.09.2026.** Further amendments if any, shall only be notified in the Bharat Electronic Tender Portal.

Note: KREDL reserves the right to annul the bidding process and invite fresh bids without liability or obligation for such invitation and without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Assistant General Manager-RAP, KREDL

Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department

Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Admin Block, NH-75 Road, Near Café Coffee Day, Narsapura-563133, Kolar taluk & District. E-Mail: eemidklr@rediffmail.com, eemigwddkolar@gmail.com, Landline No: 08152-200049

No:EE/MI/Kol/TA/AE/Tender Notification/744/2026-27/ Dtd:25.06.2026

Short term tender notification no: 07/2026-27/ Dtd: 25.06.2026

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Kolar has invited tenders for eligible bidders through KPP-Procurement for the work in two cover system for the 01 number of work. The tender procedure as per Rule of KTPP Act and standard tender document KW-4 (01 work) shall be followed for Maximum amount & Minimum amount of Rs. 150.00 Lakhs. Scheduled EMD amount to be submitted through KPP-Portal and tender processing fees as per KPP-Portal procedure. Downloading tender documents through KPP-Portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in starts **from Dt:25.06.2026 after 04:30 PM.** Pre-bid Queries to be submitted on **Dt:01.07.2026 @ 11:30 AM @ Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Admin Block, NH-75 Road, Near Cafe Coffee Day, Narsapura-563133, Kolar taluk & District.** Uploading tender documents upto **Dt:09.07.2026 till 04:30 PM.** Opening of technical bid starts from **Dt:10.07.2026 after 04:31 PM.** The Executive Engineer reserves the right to make any changes in above details in future if needed. For more details can be obtained from the office of the under signed on all working days during office hours and also through website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Executive Engineer reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without giving any reason.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water, Development Division, Kolar.

DIPR/KOLAR/RO:142/KSMCA/2026-27

BANGALORE MYSORE INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR AREA PLANNING AUTHORITY
No.5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560009
Ph: 080-22341230/35, E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No:BMICAPA/CLU-01/23/2026-27/547 Date: 02.07.2026

PUBLICATION
(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Sri Bhujendra K.M S/o Mahalingaiah, Sri Madhu K.M S/o Mahalingaiah and Sri Mahesh.K.M S/o Mahalingaiah, have applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Residential"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No:2/1A extent of 03Acre-11Guntas (Including 00Acre-03Guntas 'A' Kharab) Part of 05Acre-05Guntas of Kumbalagodu Gollahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid lands are reserved for **Agriculture zone** in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following:

1) By developing the **Residential** layout in the above said land, the general public will get the sites for reasonable price.
2) During the development works of the layout there will be opportunity of employment for Local labourers.
3) Surrounding areas will be developed by developing the Layout in the above said lands.
4) By development of planned layout, the public are benefited with the civic amenities such as good roads, UGD, electrical facilities and parks etc.

Objections, if any, are invited from the public. Any person may file his/her objection to the Member Secretary, B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru in writing to the address of this Authority within **15 days from the date of this notice.** Any objections received after the stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/-
Member Secretary,
DIPR/CP/1453/SHIRDI SAI/2026-27 **B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru**

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

Corrigendum

Tender No.: 91260366 & 91260365, Dated: 26/06/2026. The following Corrigendum against **Tender No. 91260366 & 91260365** scheduled to be opened on **17.07.2026 at 11:00 Hrs. & 10.08.2026 at 11:00 Hrs.** are carried out as under: - **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Particulars; As per Tender Document; To be Read As Follows: [1]; 91260366;** Item Details Description; Existing; Motor Suspension Unit For WAG-9 Loco As Per DRG. NO. 1209-01.111-004, 1209-01.011-018, Alt.[0., SPECN. NO. CLW/MS/3/201 Alt.2. STR No.-RDSO/2007/ EL/STR/0018 Rev.-1.[2]; **91260365;** Item Details Description; Existing; Suspension Tube Bearing for WAG-9/WAP-7 locos (Cyl. Roller Bearing, DE/NDE) as per Specn. CLW/MS/3/032 Alt-3 & RDSO/EL/FRS/ Bearing/0013-2015 Rev."0" Drg No. 1209-01.411-020 Alt.[1209-01.411-021 Alt-1.

PR1/409 AMM(P)CLW/Chittaranjan

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INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH
Gen A.K. Vaidya Marg,
Film City Road, Mumbai-400065

Notice Inviting Tender

Tender bids are invited from qualified vendors for the work mentioned below.

Name of work: External Repair, Waterproofing & painting works of Multiple Buildings, and Construction of New Washrooms near the Administrative Block at IGIDR EMD (INR): 7,05,000.00 Completion Period: Six Months Last Date of Bid Submission: 23rd July 2026, End of the Day

The tender document shall be downloaded from our website: **www.igidr.ac.in/tenders/**

Sd/- Registrar

HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
East Wing, 7th FLOOR, Swarna Jayanthi Commercial Complex, Ameerpet, HYDERABAD-500038.

e - Procurement Tender Notice

Tenders are invited on e-procurement from valid Registered Contractors for the following works:

S. No.	NIT No	Name of work	Tender inviting authority	Last date of submission of bids online	
1.	HMDA/DEV/CE/12/2026-27, Date:- 02-07-2026	"System Integrator Services for Preparation, Development, Implementation, and Maintenance of 3D City Model for Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) and a G1S based Geospatial Base Map for Hyderabad Metropolitan Region (HMR), Future City Development Authority (FCDA), and Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority (YTDA) Areas"	Chief Engineer, HMDA	Uploading of RFP on Eprocurement Platform	04-07-2026
				Pre-bid Meeting	13-07-2026
				Uploading Pre Bid Queries & Amendments if any	20-07-2026
				Last Date for receiving Bids Online	31-07-2026

For further details visit https://tender.telangana.gov.in

DIPR R.O. No. : 272-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/2026-27 Dt:02-07-2026

Sd/- Chief Engineer, HMDA

MADHYA PRADESH RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(AN AGENCY OF PANCHAYAT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, Government of Madhya Pradesh)
3rd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)
(GST No. 23AAATM9054A3ZX)

No.6106/22/D-12/ Brg.DPR/2026 Bhopal, Dated : 24.06.2026

DPR CONSULTANCY OF BRIDGES (SHORT TIME E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE)

Online Bids are invited from the reputed Consultants for preparation of DPR of Bridge under kshatigrast yojna as per details given below;

- **No. of Packages - 13**
- **Nodal PIU - Nodal PIU - Khandwa, Barwani, Ujjain, Shajapur, Chhindwara, Narsinghpur, Mandla, Sehore, Rewa, Satna.**
- **No. of Bridges - 122**

Total Estimated Construction Cost (in Rs.) - Rs. 3733500000.00

- Cost of Bid Document, Bid Security (EMD) and service charges as appearing on e-procurement portal are to be paid simultaneously through Debit Card/Credit Card/ Internet Banking or system generated challan. For detailed procedure of online payment of EMD and submission of affidavit please refer condition number 2 of detailed NIT.

1. RFP document may be seen, downloaded and purchased from our e-procurement website **https://mptenders.gov.in** from **17:30 hrs on 03.07.2026.**
2. Last date of Submission of bid is date **04.08.2026 upto 17.00 hrs.**

Other details & Conditions may be seen in the detailed NIT and Tender Document for preparation of DPR of Bridges under MPRRDA April 2026 amended up to date on our Website **http://mptenders.gov.in.**

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (TENDER)

M.P. Madhyam/126683/2026

'मेरी सड़क' एप डाउनलोड कर फीडबैक देकर राष्ट्र के विकास में सहयोग दें।

BENGALURU EAST CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Doddanekkundi Division,
Phoenix Mall opp. RHB Colony, Whitefield Main Road, Bengaluru-560048

No.BECC/EE/DNK/TN/03/2026-27 Date: 02-07-2026

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (SHORT TERM)
(Only through KPP Portal)

Executive Engineer, Doddanekkundi Division invites **Item Rate** tenders from eligible tenderers for the work details in the table given below. The Bidders shall be a registered in CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/any State or Central Govt. organization. Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-Procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/eporta/index.seam** under login for Contractors;

Sl. No.	Name of the Work/Amount put to tender (in Lakhs) EMD in Rs./ Period of Completion
1	Comprehensive development works in SC/ST areas AS PER CENSUS 2011 Block No. 107/2, 109, 206, 119, 178, 23, 24, 22, 118, 121 & 106 in Kundalahalli village, Lakshmi Narayanapura, Doddanekkundi, A.K. Colony, Ashwath Nagara, Chinnappanahalli, Ambedkaranagara, Maheshwaranagara and Garudacharpalya Surrounding area and allied works in AECS Layout, Garudacharpalya and Doddanekkundi wards in Mahadevapura Constituency. Amount put to tender: **Rs.639.17 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs.9,60,000/-**. Period of completion: **09 months.**

Calendar of events:
1. Last date for submission of queries: **09.07.2026 within 3.00 PM**
2. Date & time for Pre-bid meeting: **09.07.2026 at 4.00 PM**
3. Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **10.07.2026 up to 4.00 PM**
4. Date & time for Opening of Technical Bid: **13.07.2026 at 4.30 PM**
5. Date & time for Opening of Financial Bid: **14.07.2026 at 4.00 PM**
6. Validity of Tender: **180 Days**

Bid document may be referred for other terms and conditions and any Corrigendum/Addendum will be published and notified only through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or Contract KPP Portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Doddanekkundi Division, BECC

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division,
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, **Email ID:** eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Short Term Tender Notification No. 12/2026-27 DATED: 01.07.2026

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD, Anekal & Nelamangala Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP.

Tender Notification are Published for 03 Works **(Rs. 46.00 to 650.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

1.Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 16.07.2026**

2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **17.07.2026 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
DIPR/CP/1442/Zen/2026-27 **PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.**

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RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.
KALISINDH THERMAL POWER PROJECT, JHALAWAR (RAJASTHAN)

Online Tender Notice TN-709(RVU2627WLOB00673)

E-tenders are invited for Design, Engineering, supply, erection, testing & commissioning for performance improvement and modification of boiler to mitigate high SH and Rh spray of unit#1&2 (2x600 MW), KaTPP, RVUNL, Jhalawar. Tender details are available on websites **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** (for e-tender), **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**

Raj.Samwad/C/26/6052 RVUN/PR-4421 Chief Engineer (KaTPP)

श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी पोर्ट, कोलकाता
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
(Formerly KOLKATA PORT TRUST)

Tender Notice No.: SMPA/KDS/CIV/T/3057/34 Dated: 10.06.2026

"Tender for Engineering, Procurement and Construction for Development of Off-Dock Container Stacking Yard at Loco Shed Area of KDS, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata"

Estimated Cost (in Crore):	Last Date of Submission:
₹ 33,83,42,016.00	09.07.2026 upto 15.00 Hrs.

Details may be seen at https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app & https://smp.smportkolkata.in

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BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK, BENGALURU - 83.
Phone No: 080-29776466 / 67 E-mail: ed@bannerughattabiopark.org

No:A3/BBP/e-Tender/Feed-Meat/CR-3/2026-27 Date: 30-06-2026

E-PROCUREMENT RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Deputy Director, Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru herein after referred as Tender Inviting Authority, has invited Re-Tender for **Supply of Buffalo Meat above the age of thirteen years for the Captive Carnivore Wild Animals Housed at Various Units in Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bannerghatta, Bengaluru** for one year from the date of agreement through e-Procurement Portal from the eligible Contractor.

Sl. No.	Details	Approximate cost of the commodities put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD to be furnished (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Supply of Buffalo Meat to Safari, Zoo and Rescue Center.	440.00	6.60

Approximate Quantity per Annum (in Kgs): 2,15,000.00

Detailed tender documents may be downloaded from the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Tenders may be submitted along with EMD and tender fees electronically in e-Portal **18-07-2026 upto 4.00 PM.** Technical Bid will be Opened on **20-07-2026 after 4.30 PM.** Financial Bid will be Opened on **22-07-2026 after 11.30 AM**

Sd/-
Deputy Director
DIPR/CP/1439/Adverto/2026-27

MADHYA PRADESH PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
MPPHSCL
(A Government of Madhya Pradesh Undertaking)
Oil Fed Building, 01, Arera Hills, Bhopal
URL : https://mpphscl.mp.gov.in, Phone : 0755-2578915

Dated : 02.07.2026

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders for following item/Services floated on website and Portal from **Dated 02.07.2026 to Next 30 days :-**

1. **Online EOI No. :-** 06/MPPHSCL/Services/2026 for Engagement of Service Provider for Supply **"Tablet Devices on Rent"** Model for Health Institutions under the Department of Public Health & Family Welfare, Government of Madhya Pradesh" **Dated : 02.07.2026** Uploaded on Website.
2. Online Tender Ref. No. T-924/MPPHSCL/4K Video Endoscopy Camera System/QC/2026 **Dated : 02.07.2026** Uploaded on Portal & Website.
3. Tender (s) for Centrifuge and Electrophoresis Apparatus.
4. Tender (s) for Bubble CPAP.
5. Tender (s) for Advanced Ophthalmic Microscope.
6. Tender (s) for Band Saw Machine.
7. Tender (s) for Nebulizer.
8. Tender (s) for Various Equipment.
9. Tender (s) for Various Drugs.
10. Tender (s) for Various Surgical & Consumables.

All Prospective bidders are requested to visit **www.mptenders.gov.in, https://mpphscl.mp.gov.in, https://gem.gov.in** for further details.

M.P. Madhyam/126698/2026 **CGM (TECHNICAL)**

BENGALURU-MYSURU INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR AREA PLANNING AUTHORITY
No.5, Second Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560009
Ph: 080-22341230/35, E-mail: bmicapa@gmail.com

No.BMICAPA/CLU-01/22/2026-27/546 Dated:02-07-2026

PUBLICATION
(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Sri Mahesh.K.M S/o Mahalingaiah, Sri Shivakumar.M S/o Marulusidappa, Sri R.Shivamadaiah S/o Late Revanna, Sri Munikrishna.D S/o Late Doddappaiah, Smt Shivamma W/o Marulusiddappa and Sri Ramesh.D S/o Late Doddappaiah have applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Residential"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No: 129 extent of 02Acre, Sy.No: 137 extent of 02 Acre-14 1/4 Guntas part of 03 Acre-27 Guntas and Sy.No:138 extent of 02 Acre-13 1/4 Guntas part of 03 Acre-37 Guntas totally measuring 06 Acre -27 1/2 Guntas of Kumbalagodu Gollahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid lands are reserved for **Agriculture zone** in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following,

1) By developing the **Residential** layout in the above said land, the general public will get the sites for reasonable price.
2) During the development works of the layout there will be opportunity of employment for Local labourers.
3) Surrounding areas will be developed by developing the Layout in the above said lands.
4) By development of planned layout, the public are benefited with the civic amenities such as good roads, UGD, electrical facilities and parks etc.

Objections, if any, are invited from the public. Any person may file his/her objection to Member Secretary, BMICAPA, Bengaluru in writing to the address of this Authority within **15 days from the date of this notice.** Any objections received after the stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/- Member Secretary,
DIPR/CP/1457/CCL/2026-27 **B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru**

TIMES BUSINESS

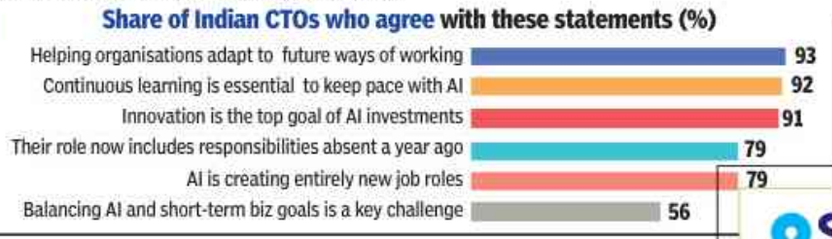
THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026

The new CTO wears more hats than ever

A recent survey shows India's technology leaders are spending less time managing systems and more time preparing organisations and people for the AI era

81% say leaders face pressure to deploy AI before they can measure its impact

Share of Indian CTOs who agree with these statements (%)



How Indian CTOs' roles are evolving

Old roles	New roles
Managed infra	Leads AI transformation
Ran IT operations	Shapes business strategy
Focused on systems	Builds AI-ready workforce
Worked within technology	Partners across the C-suite

SBI Premier

Premier Banking Virtual Relationship Facility

Privileged access to services exclusively for you on YONO

- A dedicated Relationship Associate for all banking needs
- 25% concession on Locker Rent
- Exclusive Lifestyle benefits with Elite Credit Card
- Best-in-class Demat Account and Investment Services
- RuPay Debit Card with Free Lounge Access, OTT and more
- Life and Non-Life Insurance solutions to safeguard your future

To know more, please contact your home branch

Premier

T&C apply

BoB enters ₹5.7k cr settlement with creditors of NMC Health

Bank's Stock Falls 4% As Investors Count Immediate Costs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Bank of Baroda has agreed to pay $600 million (about Rs 5,700 crore) to the administrators of the collapsed West Asian healthcare group NMC Health in an out-of-court settlement that brings to a close years of cross-border insolvency and fraud-related litigation, with both sides making no admission of liability and courts in Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) and the UK moving to discontinue proceedings.

The settlement marks a significant development in the aftermath of NRI BR Shetty promoted NMC Health's dramatic 2020 collapse, which followed a forensic audit that uncovered billions of dollars in previously undisclosed debt and alleged financial irregularities, widely estimated at $5-6 billion. The fallout triggered one of the most complex insolvency cases spanning multiple jurisdictions, with administrators seeking recoveries for creditors from a range of parties.

Among those drawn into the legal battle were NMC founder Dr BR Shetty, former senior executives, and Bank of Baroda, which had emerged as one of the key lenders with exposure to the group's operations in the UAE and India. At the heart of the dispute was the administrators' contention that certain financial arrangements and lending relationships with BoB enabled the concealment of debt or allowed the company to continue operations despite insolvency. The claims sought monetary recovery to increase the size of pool available to creditors.

In a separate filing, BoB said that the bank's domestic deposits for the first quarter were up 14.7% at Rs 14.2 lakh crore while domestic advances were up 16.1% at Rs 11.5 lakh crore. The settlement, as recorded in filings, resolves all such claims in exchange for the agreed payment by Bank of Baroda, which will be routed to the NMC estate managed by joint administrators. These funds will be distributed to creditors, including banks, bondholders and trade creditors, in accordance with insolvency priorities under applicable frameworks.

The bank's shares have already reacted to the development, closing 4% down following the announcement, as investors factor in the immediate cost and await clarity on accounting treatment. Given the bank's balance sheet size and capital position, the settlement is seen as a manageable one-off impact rather than a systemic concern.

FIRM COLLAPSED IN 2020

- Settlement marks significant development in aftermath of NRI BR Shetty promoted NMC Health's dramatic 2020 collapse
- At heart of dispute was administrators' contention that certain financial arrangements and lending relationships with BoB enabled concealment of debt or allowed company to continue operations despite insolvency
- In a separate filing, BoB said that the bank's domestic deposits for the first quarter were up 14.7% at ₹14 .2 lakh crore while domestic advances were up 16.1% at ₹11.5 lakh crore

Carlsberg files IPO papers confidentially

Mumbai: Danish brewer Carlsberg has confidentially filed draft IPO papers for its India unit with markets regulator Sebi earlier this week, the company said. "The progress and timing of the potential IPO will depend on a number of factors, including the regulatory review and approvals, as well as prevailing market conditions," a global spokesperson said in a statement. It is understood that the IPO will not include any primary share sale.

After months of sluggishness, activity on IPO street is picking up with a bunch of companies having filed draft papers. Amid US-Iran truce and improving situation in West Asia, investment bankers expect the second half of the year to be busy. Jio Platforms, NSE, Zepto and Oyo parent Prism are among companies that are headed for a listing on the bourses. Jio Platforms' IPO alone is estimated to raise up to $3.8 billion and is set to be India's biggest ever stock market listing. Carlsberg started commercial operations in India in 2007 with the launch of Carlsberg Green in the premium beer segment. It competes with brands such as Budweiser and Kingfisher in the market. TNN

Tata Steel in talks with Dutch govt for transport project

New Delhi: Tata Steel is in discussion with the Dutch govt to chalk out a plan for its transition project in the Netherlands as the company looks to meet relevant guidelines amid challenges it faces due to tightened emission norms, the company's chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Thursday. Tata Steel owns a steel manufacturing plant at IJmuiden there with an annual installed capacity of around 7 million tonne. It has adopted a transformation programme to maximise production efficiencies, lower fixed costs and optimise product mix and margins at the facility. PTI

Temasek arm to offload 2.6% stake in PB Fintech

Mumbai: MacRitchie Investments, an arm of Temasek is offloading up to 2.6% stake in Policybazaar parent PB Fintech through block deals worth about $200 million, the term sheet of the deal showed. The floor price of the deal has been set at Rs 1,604 per share, about 4.6% discount to the company's closing price of Rs 1,682.1 on the NSE on Thursday. TNN

Cryptocurrency difficult to regulate, RBI tells Parl panel

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: RBI on Thursday made its stand over legalising cryptocurrency clear, amid fears that it can be a source of financing for crimes with transnational dimensions like drug trade and terrorism, persons familiar with the deliberations said after the central bank briefed a Parliamentary committee on virtual digital assets (VDAs).

A lawmaker said RBI also emphasised that VDAs are difficult to regulate, adding that there is a strong view that cryptocurrency can especially pose big problems for an emerging economy like India. Even a more developed economy like China has banned crypto, he said.

Asked if RBI is for legalising cryptocurrency, the standing committee on finance chairman Bhrtruhari Mahtab said, "No". RBI is also of the view that tracking offshore entities involved VDA trade poses serious challenge for regulatory authorities, sources added. The central bank is a strong opponent to legalising crypto assets and has publicly stated its opposition. Thursday's assertion is seen to be a firm no from governor Sanjay Malhotra, amid strong lobby seeking legitimacy for VDAs.

In contrast to RBI, the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI) said VDAs present a set of strategic opportunities for India, if aligned with the country's strengths in digital infrastructure, fintech innovation, and global services leadership. It called for a comprehensive VDA Law providing guidance on issuance, trading and custody that attracts institutional participants and strengthens investor protection, sources said.

"VDAs can significantly enhance India's position in cross-border payments and remittances. Leveraging blockchain-based systems and stablecoins, India can enable faster, lower-cost, and more transparent cross-border transactions, complementing existing digital payment systems such as UPI," it is believed to have said. This can strengthen India's role as a global hub for efficient payment infrastructure, it added.

CA BODY BACKS VIRTUAL ASSETS

Now, Mehli exits board of Ratan Tata's startup arm

Move Comes As RNT Associates Prepares For Asset Transfer To Two Beneficiary Foundations

Reeba.Zachariah
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Mumbai: Mehli Mistry has resigned from the board of RNT Associates India, the investment vehicle through which Ratan Tata began backing startups, as the company prepares to transfer its assets to the two foundations he named as beneficiaries in his will. Mistry has stepped down with effect from July 1, citing preoccupation with other commitments.

Mistry's exit extends a pattern of withdrawal from Tata Group institutions after Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (SDTT) and Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) declined to renew his trusteeship in Oct 2025. He has also resigned from the Tata Small Animal Hospital and the National Centre for Performing Arts. He remains a trustee of Tata Education and Development Trust, the Tata Trusts affiliate that holds substantial cash reserves.

After Mistry's trusteeship at SRTT and SDTT ended, he approached the Maharashtra Charity Commissioner alleging violations of trust deeds and public trust laws. He has challenged reappointment and eligibility of certain trustees, alleging conflicts of interest, breaches of fiduciary duty and violations of governance norms. At the Bai Hirabai Jamsetji Tata Navsari Charitable Institution, he alleged that non-Zoroastrians were serving on the board in breach of the trust deed.

The restructuring at RNT Associates leaves RR Shastri, Jamsheed Poncha and Sidharth Sharma as RNT Associates' remaining directors. All three hold professional ties to the Tata Group and sit on the boards of either Ratan Tata Endowment Fund or the Ratan Tata Endowment Trust — the philanthropic vehicles to whom Ratan Tata bequeathed his shares and securities in his will. Ratan Tata held the controlling stake at RNT Associates, with a single share held by Ratna Krishnakumar, widow of Tata veteran RK Krishnakumar and mother of Tata Consumer Products chief operating officer Ajit Krishnakumar.

TRUST TALES: THE TIMELINE

- **29 Oct 2022** | Mehli Mistry inducted into SDTT and SRTT
- **11 Sept 2025** | Mistry and three trustees question the lack of consultation on Tata Sons matters requiring Trust approval; oppose Vijay Singh's reappointment to the Tata Sons board and propose Mistry as his replacement. Noel Tata rejects the proposal
- **28 Oct** | Trustees led by Noel block Mistry's reappointment to SDTT and SRTT. Mistry later steps down from NCPA and Tata Small Animal Hospital
- **16 Apr 2026** | Mistry alleges governance irregularities at SDTT
- **9 June** | Mistry alleges governance lapses, conflicts of interest and misuse of Tata group resources by certain SRTT trustees
- **1 July** | Mistry resigns from startup investment firm RNT Associates

OMCs back in FX mkt? Spike in $ demand raises buzz

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The rupee closed at 95.4 against the dollar, down 15 paise from its previous close of 95.25 in the foreign exchange market, with renewed demand for dollars spurring speculation over the return of oil marketing companies (OMCs) to the forex market.

To reduce market demand for dollars and stem rupee volatility, RBI had earlier this year moved OMCs to a separate window for purchasing dollars. Oil companies are the biggest importers, and their purchases can swing the exchange rate. "The rupee, which opened at 94.35 on Monday morning, touched 95.35 today, a difference of a rupee in such a short period when almost everything was positive for the rupee. I think the rupee would return towards 94.25 levels next week once this temporary dollar demand ends," said KN Dey, a forex consultant. The demand for dollars on Thursday came as a surprise, as Asian currencies globally rose against the dollar and international crude oil prices were at a pre–Middle East conflict low.

Demand for dollars on Thursday came as a surprise as international crude oil prices were at a pre-conflict low

"According to unconfirmed market reports, public sector oil marketing companies have initiated substantial US dollar remittances to cover crude oil imports scheduled over the next couple of months. These forward transactions, reportedly locked in at Brent crude prices near pre-war levels of $71 per barrel, have stimulated an immediate surge in US dollar demand," Dey added. While the RBI has been intervening in the forex market, selling dollars through nationalised banks to stabilise the rupee, dealers said that supporting the rupee ahead of the expected FCNR(B) dollar inflows might be counterintuitive for the RBI.

AI chip rush raises gadget prices

Asmita Dey@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: If you think the AI boom will only make MacBooks and iPads more expensive, you are wrong. You probably do not realise it, but a host of products you use every day have memory chips in them—this is because devices are getting 'smart' which means they require more memory to process data and run applications.

From your connected speakers, smartphones, TVs to even smaller kitchen appliances, everything has chips. Prices of products such as smart TVs have already been rising and the rush to expand AI infrastructure will only make supplies of chips scarce, driving chipflation. And consumers will have to pay for it.

"Memory component prices continue on an upward trajectory with eMMC prices having gone up by almost 12 times while DDR memory prices have increased by nearly 15 times. Prices across the (smart TV) category have already seen an increase of nearly 30% over the last few months. If price pressures continue, further price revisions may become inevitable," said Arjun Bajaj, director at Videotex which manufactures TVs for brands.

The current chip crunch is heavily driven by semiconductor fabs diverting capacity towards high-bandwidth memory (HBM) for the AI boom. This has sent standard DRAM, NAND and legacy microcontrollers spiking across the board, said Rahul Sharma, co-founder at MiPhi and Bhagwati Products which manufactures smartphones and other electronics for brands such as Oppo, Vivo and Lenovo.

For consumers, this means higher prices for everything from SD cards to smartphones and for brands, it's a race to secure the chips before competitors or further cost escalations, said Nikhil Rajpal, founder & CEO at smart devices firm Qubo. Some small smartphone and PC manufacturers are already facing heat because of their inability to procure chips, said Parv Sharma, senior analyst at Counterpoint Research, projecting demand for smartphones and PCs at the lower and medium end to take a hit. "Consumers with smaller budgets may go slow on upgrades," Sharma said. The research firm forecasts global smartphone shipments to decline to about 1.1 billion units, the lowest annual volume since 2013.

There will be an increase of around 10-15% in chip prices this quarter due to the shift of allocation of chips to AI sector/data centres instead of the low margin consumer electronics market.

DISCRETIONARY SPENDS TAKE A HIT

- Product prices have already been rising and **rush to expand AI infra will make supplies of chips scarce,** driving chipflation
- **Current chip crunch is heavily driven by semiconductor fabs** diverting capacity towards high-bandwidth memory (HBM) for the AI boom
- Counterpoint Research forecasts **global smartphone shipments to decline to about 1.1 billion units,** the lowest annual volume since 2013

Adani, IHC join hands for $11.5bn aluminium project

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Abu Dhabi's International Holding Company, which emerged as a key backer of the Adani Group following the Hindenburg-induced market turmoil in 2023, is deepening its partnership with the conglomerate through an $11.5 billion integrated aluminium project in Odisha.

The partners have formed an equal joint venture to build a sprawling aluminium complex comprising a four-million-tonne alumina refinery, a two-million-tonne aluminium smelter, a one-million-tonne downstream aluminium facility and a 4,000-MW captive power plant, making it one of India's largest aluminium hubs.

Adani Enterprises, an investor in the venture, also launched a $1 billion qualified institutional placement (QIP) on Thursday. The fundraising follows its $2.8 billion rights issue in Dec 2025, the company's largest capital raise since the 2023 Hindenburg-triggered turmoil. The QIP was launched at an indicative price of Rs 2,883 per share, a 9.3% discount to Adani's closing price of Rs 3,118 on the NSE on Thursday. The issue will result in an equity dilution of 2.6% on a post-issue basis.

The flagship Adani Group company has built large-scale businesses spanning ports, airports, energy and cement, and is now expanding into data centres, copper and petrochemicals. It already operates a $1.2 billion copper smelter in Gujarat, billed as the world's largest single-location facility of its kind.

The IHC-Adani venture will compete with the aluminium businesses of Kumar Mangalam Birla-led Hindalco and Anil Agarwal's Vedanta. "We are building long-term platforms in industries that will define the future of the global economy," IHC chief executive Syed Basar Shueb said while announcing the project.

AI boom supercharges industrial engineers' pay packages

Supriya.Roy@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: India's AI data-centre boom is creating an unexpected winner: engineers from mechanical, electrical and industrial backgrounds. As companies race to build energy-intensive AI infrastructure, mechanical, electrical and cooling engineers—roles long overshadowed by software jobs—are back in demand, commanding hefty salaries and opening a new career path for industrial talent.

Companies actively hiring span the full AI infrastructure chain. They include colocation players such as Equinix, STT GDC India, Yotta, CtrlS and NTT; hyperscalers including AWS, Google and Microsoft; and engineering and cooling majors such as L&T, Tata Projects, Schneider Electric, Vertiv, Siemens, Honeywell and Johnson Controls. For India's engineers, the AI boom is increasingly becoming a physical infrastructure story, driven by substations, cooling plants and power systems as much as by code.

The hiring surge is being fuelled by the rapid expansion of India's data-centre industry. According to Avendus Capital, operational data-centre capacity is expected to rise from 1.6 GW in 2025 to 5 GW by 2030. More than 3 GW of capacity is already under development, requiring nearly $25 billion in investments, while AI-specific capacity is expected to quadruple.

Exclusive hiring data shared with TOI by executive search firm Ishwa Consulting shows specialised roles emerging across AI data centres, including AI infrastructure architects, liquid cooling specialists, power procurement heads and grid resilience managers.

The salaries are eye-catching. AI infrastructure architects earn between Rs 1 crore and Rs 1.5 crore annually, while greenfield site heads can command up to Rs 1.8 crore. Heads of critical facilities and specialist cooling teams are making Rs 50 lakh to over Rs 1 crore a year. Engineers with seven to 12 years of experience are earning Rs 15 lakh to Rs 30 lakh, while entry-level cooling and critical-facility engineers start at Rs 5 lakh to Rs 8 lakh annually.

The biggest hiring rush is happening in cooling. Companies are actively recruiting data-centre cooling engineers, HVAC design engineers, critical facilities engineers, commissioning engineers and liquid cooling specialists, while BMS and controls engineers are also seeing strong demand as facilities become increasingly automated.

The newest and fastest-growing area is liquid cooling. Specialists work on direct-to-chip cooling systems, immersion tanks and coolant distribution units—technologies becoming essential as AI workloads drive up server density and heat generation. "Cooling engineering requires thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and an understanding of mechanical and electrical systems at a facilities level," said Mahesh Trivedi, EVP-DC Engineering at Neysa. AI campuses, he added, now also require expertise in stainless steel piping, coolant chemistry and advanced safety controls.

The talent hunt is widening beyond traditional data-centre operators. Arvind Pandit, founder and managing partner at Ishwa Consulting, said AI infrastructure's growing power and cooling requirements are pushing companies to hire from telecom, cloud, power, renewables, utilities, airports, metros, pharma and refineries. "The common thread isn't the sector; it's whether the person has worked in environments where uptime, load, safety and redundancy are non-negotiable," he said.

PSU and ex-PSU engineers from NTPC, Power Grid, BHEL, ONGC and Indian Oil are also being tapped, both as consultants and full-time hires, especially where deep power systems, grid and substation expertise are needed.

Navnit Singh, chairman and regional managing director at executive search firm Korn Ferry India, said newer infrastructure sectors often rely on external expertise in their early years before local talent catches up. "That's how industrial ecosystems evolve," he said. The AI revolution is creating a new class of technology workers whose tools are not just algorithms and code, but also chillers, transformers, and cooling systems that keep the world's AI engines running.

HIGH-PAYING ENGINEERING ROLES

Role	Indicative salary	Talent pool / Background
Head of power procurement	₹80 lakh–₹1.5 cr	Renewables, open access, power trading, utilities
Liquid cooling engineering lead	₹70 lakh–₹1.2 cr	Thermal engineering, HVAC, semiconductor cooling, liquid-cooling OEMs
AI infrastructure architect	₹1 cr–₹1.5 cr	Hyperscalers, GPU infrastructure, cloud architecture, HPC, data-centre design
Data sovereignty / regulatory lead	₹70 lakh–₹1.1 cr	Legal, compliance, policy, cloud governance, data governance
Greenfield site head	₹1 cr–₹1.8 cr	Large infrastructure, EPC, site acquisition, industrial parks, real estate development

REALITY CHECK ON THE CARDS

Salah fitness in focus ahead of Aus clash

Dallas: Mohamed Salah remains in a race to be ready for Egypt's last 32 clash with Australia in Dallas on Friday with the forward continuing his recovery from a hamstring strain sustained in the 1-1 draw with Iran.

The Egyptians are in the knockout rounds for the first time after group phase eliminations in 1990 and 2018 and Salah's availability is a key concern for coach Hossam Hassan ahead of the clash with Tony Popovic's side.

A video of Salah working out in the gym away from teammates on the training pitch was posted on social media on Wednesday, suggesting the 34-year-old could be fit enough to play a part at Dallas Stadium. "The road back begins," said the latest post, "and the King is coming back stronger."

Round of 32
AUSTRALIA VS EGYPT
11:30 pm (Fri) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

The draw with the Iranians booked Egypt's place in the last 32 as runners-up in Group G after a win over New Zealand and an opening stalemate with Belgium. Salah's stellar talent and reputation have been a focal point in the lead-up to the game for the Australians, who are attempting to win in the knockout rounds for the first time.

The Socceroos have moved past the group phase for the third time in their history and for a second World Cup in a row having been knocked out in Qatar in 2022 by eventual winners Argentina in the last 16 under former coach Graham Arnold. REUTERS

BOSNIA PLAYERS SHOULD BE PROUD OF JOURNEY: COACH

Santa Clara: Bosnia coach Sergej Barbarez said his players should celebrate their journey and hold their heads up high despite exiting with their defeat by the US on Wednesday. "I was really proud of them," Barbarez said. "This is the result that we should celebrate, we shouldn't be sad, because this is part of life, part of football, especially in a big competition like this."

Barbarez said he was looking forward to the team returning home to meet the people. "Video messages are nice and great, phone calls are great, but being among people, only then will we understand how good this is, how big this." REUTERS

WILL CABO VERDE'S FAIRYTALE RUN END AGAINST ARGENTINA?

HAPPY BUNCH: Cabo Verde players take a break from training in Tampa

Round of 32
ARGENTINA VS CABO VERDE
3:30 am (Sat) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

Miami: By any measure, Cabo Verde should have next to no chance of knocking Argentina and Lionel Messi out of the World Cup on Friday, but the Africans have huge confidence in their ability to defy the odds and keep their fairytale debut campaign alive.

Draws with former World Cup winners Spain and Uruguay helped them into the knockout stage and far from cursing their luck at having to play the reigning champions in the round of 32, assistant coach Humberto Bettencourt said this week that it would be "a pleasure" to face the Albiceleste. "Statistics are theories. Football — as many results throughout history have shown — proves that what really counts is what happens inside the four lines," he told reporters at the team's camp in Tampa on Sunday.

"They gave us one per cent before, and now four per cent is irrelevant to us. We focus much more on our ambitions, our expectations, and above all on the value that defines this working group."

Bettencourt said Cabo Verde would not be changing their style measurably to contain the world champions and had no plans to man-mark Messi in an attempt to nullify the threat of the little Argentine general.

"We consider Messi to be a player who makes a difference," Bettencourt added. "But we always look at the collective — the combinations that can be created, the spaces they may try to open up for Messi."

The least populous nation ever to make the knockout rounds of a World Cup, Cabo Verde's campaign has not only raised the profile of the squad but also put the entire island-nation on the map.

People have migrated from Cabo Verde throughout its history — the World Cup squad includes players born in the Netherlands, Portugal, France, the United States and Ireland — including a sizeable number to Argentina.

Bettencourt, the only member of the Cabo Verde delegation to speak to the media this week, confirmed that Telmo Arcanjo was 50-50 for the Argentina game because of a leg injury. The skilful midfielder did not train with the team on Wednesday. Combative left back Sidny Lopes Cabral will be available again, however, after serving a one-match ban against Saudi Arabia for picking up yellow cards against Spain and Uruguay.

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni looks set to bring Messi back into his line-up after starting him on the bench in their last group match against Jordan.

Messi came on as a substitute to score his sixth goal of the tournament in the 3-1 win that kept the Albiceleste perfect with three wins out of three through the opening round.

Otherwise, Scaloni will be considering which of the many top-class players in his squad are best suited to breaking down the Cabo Verde defence and avoiding what would rank among the greatest World Cup upsets. REUTERS

KEY GROUP NUMBERS

Cabo Verde	Argentina
Matches: 3	Matches: 3
Goals scored: 2	Goals scored: 8
Goals conceded: 2	Goals conceded: 1
Draws: 3 out of 3	Wins: 3 out of 3

SMALL IN SIZE, BIG IN EFFORT

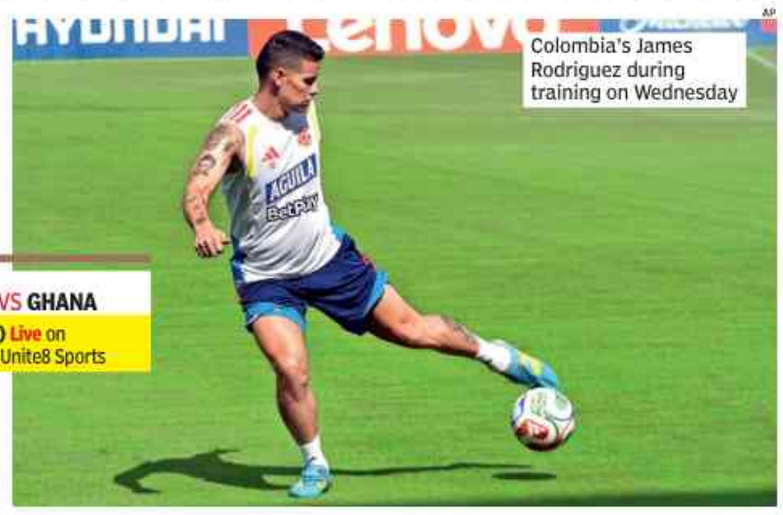
Cabo Verde will make history by becoming the smallest nation ever (by area) in the World Cup knockouts when they take on defending champions Argentina in the Round of 32

	Country	WC debut	KO stage	Currency	GDP ($bn)
1	**Cabo Verde** Area: 4,033 sqkm Language: Portuguese	2026	Face holders Argentina in Round of 32	Cape Verdean escudo	2.73
2	**Bosnia** Area: 51,197 sq km Language: Croatian, Serbian	2014	Lost in Round of 32 to USA	Convertible mark (BAM)	29.61
3	**Croatia** Area: 56,594 sq km Language: Croatian	1998	Lost in semis to France	Euro (EUR)	84.37
4	**Costa Rica** Area: 51,100 sq km Language: Spanish	1990	Lost in Round of 16 to Czechoslovakia	Costa Rican colon	95.35
5	**Rep. of Ireland** Area: 70,273 sq km Language: Irish, English	1990	Lost in quarter-finals to Italy	Euro (EUR)	590
6	**Northern Ireland** Area: 13,562 sq km Language: English, Irish, Ulster Scots	1958	Lost in quarter-finals to France	Pound sterling (GBP)	84.65
7	**Wales** Area: 20,779 sq km Language: Welsh, English	1958	Lost in quarter-finals to eventual winners Brazil	Pound sterling (GBP)	124
8	**Norway** Area: 385,207 sq km Language: Norwegian	1938	Lost in Round of 16 to Italy	Norwegian krone (NOK)	510
9	**Uruguay** Area: 176,215 sq km Language: Spanish	1930	Champions	Uruguayan peso (UYU)	80.96
10	**Paraguay** Area: 406,752 sq km Language: Spanish, Guarani	1930	Lost in Round of 16 to England	Paraguayan guaraní (PYG)	45

—Compiled by Rohan Alvares

CLASH OF STYLE AND STRENGTH

AS UPBEAT COLOMBIA TAKE ON GHANA


Colombia's James Rodriguez during training on Wednesday

Round of 32
COLOMBIA VS GHANA
7 am (Sat) Live on Zee5 and Unite8 Sports

Kansas City: Colombia will look to build on one of the strongest group-stage campaigns when they face Ghana in the round of 32 on Friday, but standing in their way is a familiar face in their former coach Carlos Queiroz.

The Portuguese managed Colombia from 2019 to 2020 before leaving after heavy World Cup qualifying defeats by Uruguay and Ecuador, and faces his former side after guiding Ghana into the knockout stage as one of the tournament's best third-placed teams.

While Ghana had to wait to learn whether four points from Group L would be enough to advance behind England and Croatia, Colombia cruised through Group K unbeaten, finishing above Portugal after a thrilling scoreless draw in their final group match.

Nestor Lorenzo's Colombia have quietly established themselves among the tournament's most convincing teams, combining defensive solidity with the sort of attacking football that helped them top a group many considered one of the toughest.

Midfielder Richard Rios said Colombia would not abandon the proactive approach that had carried them into the knockout phase. "We have to keep working step by step because I feel we can go very far," Rios told reporters.

"Every match is very difficult. Ghana may present a different physical challenge than Portugal. But if we approach every game the way we have been, showing everything we are capable of, it becomes much harder for our opponents. That's what we'll keep doing — imposing our game and going out to win," the 26-year-old added.

Queiroz, appearing at his sixth World Cup as a coach, is aiming to emulate the kind of joyful run Ghana had in 2010 when they reached the quarter-finals. "It's important that everyone wakes up in the morning and feels that happiness," captain Jordan Ayew said. AGENCIES

'KLOPP TO REPLACE NAGELSMANN AS GERMANY COACH'

Berlin: Julian Nagelsmann is reportedly set to be sacked as Germany coach, tabloid Bild reported on Thursday, with former Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp the favourite to take over in the dugout.

Nagelsmann, 38, has been under fire since Germany's last 32 exit from the World Cup after a shock loss to Paraguay.

Showing pictures of Nagelsmann at German FA (DFB) headquarters in Frankfurt, Bild reported on Thursday the coach had been offered a severance package of 7 million euros ($8 million) to leave the position in a three-hour meeting.

Last renewed in Jan 2025, Nagelsmann's contract is set to run until 2028. Figures on his annual salary have not been made public, although German media reports he earns roughly 7 million euros per year.

Germany's loss on penalties to Paraguay marked the third straight early World Cup exit for the four-time champions, after group stage eliminations in Russia and Qatar. AFP

SNAP SHOTS

SL to host India next month

Sri Lanka will host India for a two-match Test series next month, the island's cricket board announced Thursday. The opening match will be played in Galle from Aug 15.

Rain washes out Ind-Eng 1st T20I: Rain washed out the 1st T20I between India and England in Durham after India posted 189/7 in the first innings.

Aneesh, Smaran power Yodhas: Aneesh KV (76 n.o.) and R Smaran (53 n.o.) put up a crucial unbeaten 125-run fourth-wicket stand to help Shivamogga Yodhas score a seven-wicket win over Mangaluru in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 tournament in Hubballi on Thursday. **Brief scores: Coastal Kings Mangaluru: 162/7 in 20 overs** (Nikin Jose 51, Suraj Ahuja 39, Karthik CA 36; Abhilash 2-33, Dhanush Gowda 2-33, Shreesha Achar 2-23) **lost to Shivamogga Yodhas: 165/3 in 18.2 overs** (Aneesh KV 76 n.o., R Smaran 53 n.o.; Nischith Pai 2-35).

Sahan shines: Pacer Yash Thakur and off-spinner Saransh Jain took two wickets but Sri Lanka 'A' rode on skipper Sahan Arachchige's unbeaten 83 to reach 288 for 5 in 85 overs on Day 1 of the four-day match against India 'A' in Galle. **Brief scores: Sri Lanka 'A' 288/5** (Arachchige 83 batting, Fernando 44, Bandara 42; Yash 2-32, Saransh 2-77).

Pragg shares second spot: Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa began his campaign in the Zagreb leg of the Grand Chess Tour with a victory over top seed Vincent Keymer.

Aakarshi, Tanya advance: Kidambi Srikanth retired from his opening match due to fitness issues even as Tanya Hemnath and Aakarshi Kashyap progressed to the women's singles second round at the Canada Open in Markham. Srikanth was trailing 10-11 against Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia when he decided to quit. Aakarshi saw off Anna Tatranova of France 21-14, 21-12 while Tanya prevailed 21-16 21-18 over USA's Disha Gupta.

Gauarav, Himanshi triumph: BR Gauarav beat Gaurav Gowda 4-2 to bag the U-19 boys crown at state ranking table tennis in Mangaluru on Thursday. In the girls section, Himanshi Chowdhary defeated Raashi V Rao 4-3. **Results (finals) Singles: Men:** Aakash KJ bt Sanjay Madhavan K 8-11, 11-5, 11-6, 7-11, 11-8,16-14; **U-19 Boys:** BR Gauarav bt Gaurav Gowda 11-6, 12-14, 11-9, 11-8, 9-11, 11-1. **Girls:** Himanshi Chowdhary bt Raashi V Rao 9-11, 11-6, 11-13, 12-10, 11-6, 4-11, 11-6; **U-17:** Mihika Udupa bt Vibha Tavakari 11-9, 11-9, 11-6.

Doubles squeeze puts specialists on edge

TIMES OF INDIA AT WIMBLEDON

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IN FOCUS: Britain's Madeleine Brooks & Amelia Rajecki in action

The outside courts at Wimbledon are filled with doubles matches midway through the opening week. Spectators with ground tickets, which at SW19 cost about £30, flock to these entertaining contests, drinking Pimm's and watching tennis. If the ATP leadership has its way, doubles draws at Tour-level events will begin to shrink from 2028, as will the prize money for the two-man team event, which is already down to an 80-20 split in favour of singles.

Rumblings within the player community — read singles players — grew louder when some of them, despite being ranked in the top 40, took home less prize money than the top-ranked doubles players at the end of the season. One of the biggest challenges facing men's doubles is its growing separation from the singles game. The WTA Tour, which is not currently considering similar changes, has more crossover between the singles and doubles rankings. Five of the top 10 women in the doubles rankings — Taylor Townsend, Katerina Siniakova, Elise Mertens, Zhang Shuai and Jelena Ostapenko — are ranked highly in singles too.

Among the men, by contrast, only four players from the ATP singles top 100 also feature in the doubles top 100: Ben Shelton, Lorenzo Musetti, Lorenzo Sonego and Rinky Hijikata. It is a completely different set of players, not seen before the Bryan brothers, twins Mike and Bob, who started out as doubles specialists. That is precisely what the ATP appears intent on curbing: players who develop primarily as doubles specialists from the start.

The plan is to shrink draw sizes, which currently stand at 16 for doubles and 28 for singles at ATP 250 events. At the 500 level, it is 16 for doubles and 32 for singles, while Masters 1000 tournaments feature 16 for doubles and 32 for singles. That could be reduced to eight teams at ATP 250 and 500 events and 16 teams at Masters 1000 level. Alongside this, prize-money distribution could shift further towards singles, potentially moving to a 90-10 split, only a marginal change from what Grand Slam tournaments already operate with. By 2028, projected prize money for doubles is likely to be around $60 million. The Tour is not aiming to reduce overall spending, but rather to reallocate funds.

This will perhaps impact Indians, who have nine players in top 200, of whom only three are in the top 100 and one, Yuki Bhambri, in the top 50. Earlier this week, doubles players met their representatives on the player council, Marcelo Arevalo and Andrea Vavassori, to discuss the scenario they are faced with. Sriram Balaji, ranked 59 in the individual doubles rankings, told TOI, "If they make that change, half of us will not be playing tennis anymore. I have to find another job. If they reduce the draw to eight, of which there will be two wildcards, what's left?"

Indians had little luck in men's doubles at Wimbledon on Thursday. US Open semifinalists Yuki Bhambri and Michael Venus went down to alternates Jean-Julien Rojer and Theodore Winegar 3-6, 4-6.

Chethan Shivakumar

BDA chairman NA Haris (second left) and TCS' Sunil Deshpande (left) at the release of the TCS World 10k event docket in Bengaluru on Thursday

World 10K raises ₹5.73 cr for charity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The TCS World 10K Bengaluru continued to be one of the biggest philanthropy initiatives as the latest edition raised ₹5.73 crore.

"At the heart of this movement are our NGO partners, whose tireless efforts bring meaning and impact to every contribution," Rajesh Krishnan, CEO, United Way Bengaluru, the event's philanthropy partner said. at a gathering hosted to honour the people who drive the event beyond the race day. A total of 94 NGOs and 46 corporates were among the fundraisers.

"The TCS World 10K Bengaluru reflects the city's spirit of sport, community, and culture that inspires millions. These awards are a testament to this collective ethos that recognises the individuals and groups driving meaningful change by supporting social causes," Sunil Deshpande, Regional Head, Bengaluru, TCS, said.

Vivek Singh, Joint MD, Procam International, said the Evening of Gratitude is a celebration of a shared journey. "It's for honouring the remarkable contributions of fundraisers, NGOs, corporates, volunteers, and supporters who have played a vital role in the event's success," he said. Since the inception of the philanthropy programme in 2008, the race has mobilised over ₹64.93 crore to help various social causes.

The toppers: Highest Fundraising NGO: GoSports Foundation (₹ 81.9 lakh); **Corporate Team:** ASM Technologies (₹ 74.1 lakh); **Individual:** Usha Baliga (₹40.7 lakh); **Young Philanthropist:** Tia Bali (₹ 11.8 lakh); **Best Photograph:** Chethan Shivakumar (The Times of India).

Berrettini downs Fils

Prajwal.Hegde@timesofindia.com

London: After finishing a serve-and-volley sequence with a winner on his third match point, Matteo Berrettini turned to his box and nodded. He knew he was on his way. Berrettini, who had slipped out of the top 100 in May, lit up Centre Court to knock out the gifted Frenchman Arthur Fils, the 20th seed, 6-4, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3 and storm into the third round at Wimbledon.

The 30-year-old Italian, the Wimbledon finalist in 2021, has fought a long battle against his own body. Against Fils, he hammered 16 aces and found his best level when it mattered most. "I played a very high-level match. Arthur was also very good," Berrettini said. "I had a small break in the match in the third set, and then I started serving better in the fourth. I have so much confidence now."

WIMBLEDON

Earlier, French Open champion Alexander Zverev defeated Valentin Royer 6-1, 6-3, 7-6 (3) in two hours and four minutes on No. 1 Court. Defending champion Iga Swiatek looked every bit the player who lifted the title last year, if her opening-round test against Taylor Townsend is set aside, as she cruised to a 6-1, 6-3 second-round victory over 2021 finalist Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic.

'WC an ideal Asiad build-up'

Bengaluru: The twin challenges of the FIH Hockey World Cup and the Asian Games, both scheduled later this year, will be an interesting one for Indian hockey teams. Former India captain and 1980 Moscow Olympics gold medallist MM Somaya and Indian women's team chief coach Sjoerd Marijne spoke on the theme, Indian Hockey: Big Year, Bigger Aspirations, at an event organised on the occasion of World Sports Journalists Day here on Thursday.

With a gold medal at the Asian Games in Japan guaranteeing direct qualification for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, and the World Cup preceding the continental event, both stressed the importance of building momentum through the two major tournaments. "We are at full strength for the World Cup, which suggests we are taking it seriously," Somaya said. "We are ranked eighth in the world among the men and ninth among the women, so it is important to win as many matches as we can. The World Cup format has also changed and now has three stages, which means every match becomes important." With less than three weeks separating the World Cup and the Asian Games, managing player workload will be crucial. However, Marijne believes the World Cup will serve as ideal preparation rather than a burden.

HOCKEY

Syed Asif

Former India captain MM Somaya (left) and Indian women's team coach Sjoerd Marijne

"Just as it did in 2018, the World Cup can help us at the Asian Games," said the Dutchman, who guided India to a historic fourth-place finish at the Tokyo Olympics.

"We have to focus on strength and conditioning. More importantly, we need to play a lot of matches. It helps players understand tactics better and adapt to different opponents," he added. TNN

Natasha retains title

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Karnataka's **Natasha Chethan** retained the junior girls' (U-19) title with a dominant 5-1 win over Tamil Nadu's Padmakshee C in the Heyball National Championships in Dehradun on Wednesday.

Both cueists started tentatively in the race-to-five final. Once Natasha took the opening rack, she discovered her rhythm and range, running through the next three racks in double-quick time and reducing her rival to a mere spectator. **Result: Junior girls: Final:** Natasha Chethan (Kar) bt Padmakshee C (TN) 5-1.

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GOAL RUSH

11 Jun 2026 – 19 Jul 2026

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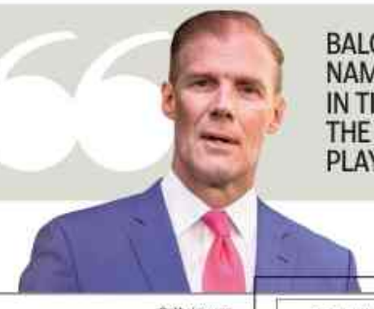

"BALOGUN'S RED CARD IS A CRAP CALL. IF HIS NAME WAS MESSI, AS WE HAVE SEEN EARLIER IN THE TOURNAMENT, HE WOULD STILL BE ON THE FIELD AND HE WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO PLAY IN SEATTLE ON MONDAY."

— **ALEXI LALAS,** FORMER US DEFENDER

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Tielemans, Lukaku Plot Incredible Comeback As Belgium Edge Out Senegal To Make Round Of 16

Seattle: Belgium will extend their stay in the Pacific Northwest following the latest dramatic ending in the round of 32 at the 2026 World Cup.

Trailing by multiple goals to Senegal with five minutes remaining in regulation at Seattle Stadium on Wednesday, the Red Devils furiously rallied to tie the game. Later in extra time, just moments from the game going to decisive penalty kicks, Belgium captain Youri Tielemans drilled home the game-winning goal on a PK awarded following a VAR review.

Belgium still needed to survive a final free-kick from just outside their penalty box on the final play of the game, but in the end they advanced to the round of 16 with a 3-2 win. It sets up a showdown against the United States back in Seattle on Monday. Belgium coach Rudi Garcia said, "In extra-time it's like two boxers, we kept fighting and fighting."

Senegal dominated the first 85 minutes of the match, with the Lions of Teranga mercilessly pressuring Belgium's overwhelmed backline. After Belgium goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois made a diving attempt to thwart an early attempt, Senegal opened the scoring on a rebound by Sunderland midfielder Habib Diarra in the 25th minute.

Senegal made it 2-0 in the 51st minute on an outstanding goal by Crystal Palace forward Ismaila Sarr, who took a long ball from Moussa Niakhate off his chest, shielded a defender and knocked his shot past a helpless Courtois.

With Belgium appeared headed for an exit, Garcia brought Napoli striker Romelu Lukaku on at halftime and later subbed off Jeremy Doku and Kevin De Bruyne. And Lukaku found the back of the net with an 86th-minute goal.

Tielemans scored his first goal of the game just three minutes later. Extra time remained scoreless, with Belgium's Dodi Lukebakio sending a solid look over the goal in the 109th minute. That was after the ball had passed by Tielemans, who went down on a tackle by Senegal midfielder Lamine Camara. Referee Said Martinez was alerted to a VAR review, and he awarded a penalty kick to Belgium. Tielemans calmly drilled it home for the game-winning goal in the 125th minute.

Senegal coach Pape Thiaw acknowledged that his team did not recover its energy after Belgium scored late in regulation, and that the loss marked a "cruel" end to his team's World Cup. AFP

> **In the 83rd minute it wasn't easy to believe we could come back. At the hydration break I told the players that if we scored another goal, anything was possible."**
> — BELGIUM COACH **Rudi Garcia**

13 Romelu Lukaku has scored 13 goals for Belgium in major tournaments, more than double the next highest goalscorer — Jan Ceulemans, who scored six.

BELGIUM	3
Lukaku 86, Tielemans 89, 120+5 (p)	
SENEGAL	2
Diarra 24, Sarr 51	

KNOCKED OUT! Senegal players react as the feeling of defeat sinks in

Getty Images

FLOORED! Youri Tielemans celebrates scoring Belgium's winner against Senegal in Seattle

TIME TO ASK APOLLO AI

NOT TO WORRY
One symptom can have many causes. Understand yours before you worry.
Scan to Check Symptoms
For any Health Query Chat with
Ask Apollo AI
Apollo 24|7

It was a day of comebacks, with Belgium snatching a victory from the jaws of defeat after England fought back to beat DR Congo 2-1 earlier. Down 0-2 till the 86th minute, Belgium's frantic win over Senegal brought back visions of their 3-2 Round-of-16 win against Japan in 2018. The result also drew comparisons with some memorable comebacks in World Cup history. TOI takes a look at some of those iconic matches when a team fought back to win after looking down and out...

COMEBACKS FOR THE AGES

Getty Images

UNSTOPPABLE FORCE: Eusebio tries to go past a North Korea defender at Goodison Park in the 1966 quarters

Austria triumph in goal-fest | **Hosts Switzerland stormed to a 3-0 lead** inside 20 minutes against Austria in the 1954 quarterfinals. **But Austria produced a stunning comeback,** scoring five goals in nine minutes to take a 5-4 lead at the break. **Theodor Wagner completed a hat-trick** in second half as **Austria held on to win 7-5.**

Hungary fall in 'Miracle of Berne' | **West Germany entered the 1954 final as massive underdogs** against a dominant Hungary side that had thrashed West Germany 8-3 earlier in the tournament. **The Ferenc Puskas-led Hungarians took a 2-0 lead** but the Germans fought back. **Helmut Rahn scored in the 84th minute and West Germany won 3-2.** History remembers the classic as the **'Miracle of Berne'**

AFTER IT'S WON & LOST: West Germany captain Fritz Walter (left) shakes hands with Ferenc Puskas after the 1954 final

Eusebio magic floors North Korea | **North Korea** shocked two-time champions Italy 1-0 to reach the quarterfinals in 1966. Then they **took a 3-0 lead against fellow debutants Portugal.** It was then **Eusebio** announced himself to the world, **inspiring Portugal's comeback with four goals** for **a 5-3 victory.** It took all of England's might to quell them in the semifinals.

West Germany triumph in 'grudge match' | It was the **1970 quarterfinals and England had taken a 2-0 lead** against W Germany in a replay of the 1966 final that England had won. But **the Germans fought back with Franz Beckenbauer and Uwe Seeler scoring** to force extra time. **Gerd Muller made it 3-2** to ensure a win.

Schumacher and the 'Night Of Seville' | **West Germany were down 1-3** in the 1982 semifinals **against France.** They fought back to **3-3, before winning 8-7 in the tie-breaker.** Keeper **Schumacher** who fouled Battiston and should have been red-carded ended up the hero.

12 goals in Austria's 7-5 win against Swiss in 1954, the highest in the WC in regulation time

31 Matches Hungary had stayed unbeaten before losing to West Germany in 1954 final.

Balogun scores, then sees red, as hosts make last 16

After Short-Handed Victory Over Bosnia, Pochettino's Men Turn Their Focus On Belgium

USA	2
Balogun 45, Tillman 82; **Red card:** Balogun 64	
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	0

Santa Clara: It took blood and sweat to produce tears of joy as the short-handed US national team moved to the World Cup's round of 16 with a gritty 2-0 win over Bosnia and Herzegovina on Wednesday in Santa Clara, California.

The USMNT's first knockout-stage win in 24 years sets up a meeting with Belgium on Monday in Seattle with a spot in the quarterfinals on the line. Amid the postgame jubilation was the realization that leading scorer Folarin Balogun, who popped in his third goal of the tournament in the 45th minute, will miss the next match. The forward received a red card in the 64th minute on Wednesday, leaving the US scrambling to defend a 1-0 lead.

They did and more when Malik Tillman scored from a free kick in the 82nd minute to seal the win. The result ended the United States' 10-match losing streak to European teams and also marked the first time the US won three matches in the same World Cup.

Tillman paused after the match to reflect on his wonder goal but also to look ahead to Belgium. "We have to enjoy this moment now," he said. "(Against Belgium), we want to go as fast possible, and it won't be an easy game, but now we will analyze them, we will analyze our game and hopefully we keep going."

In the post-match interview room, Tillman was in his socks with blood noticeable on the right sock by the big toe. He explained that in the second half, his right boot had been cut open and that shortly before the free kick he had to change footwear. After a potential Christian Pulisic goal was disallowed in the 78th minute because he was offside, Tillman sent an overpowering shot up and over the wall from 21 yards to the upper left corner.

The match took an ominous turn for the US early in the second half when Balogun was issued a straight red card. When challenging for a header, his right foot landed on Muharemovic's left ankle. There was no foul called initially, but referee Raphael Claus reviewed the play and issued the red card. When play resumed, the US refused to back down while playing smart and composed for the most part.

"For me, never was it a red card," US coach Mauricio Pochettino said. REUTERS

4 Balogun became just the fourth player ever to **score a goal and receive a red card** in a men's World Cup knockout match. The 24-year-old joined an exclusive list featuring:

- **Garrincha** (1962 semifinal)
- **Ronaldinho** (2002 quarterfinal)
- **Zinedine Zidane** (2006 final)

AP

LEBRON PRAISES BALOGUN AFTER 'SILENCER' CELEBRATION

Basketball superstar LeBron James congratulated Balogun after the striker emulated his trademark "Silencer" celebration. Balogun whipped out James's signature dance move twice, though his first effort was ruled offside. "THE (Silencer) HAS (Arrived) at the World Cup!" posted James on X, using a shushing emoji and another of a plane landing. "Helluva goal there Young (King)!" added James, whose nickname is King James, using another emoji featuring a crown.

WHAT IS THE SILENCER? The dance involves lifting his knees, pushing both palms down toward the floor, and tapping his chest, and signals that he has "silenced" an aggressive or vocal opponent.

For England, the air's thin and tension stifling

Azteca Beckons: The Pressure Is On After Kane's Brilliance Helps Team Scrape Past DR Congo

Moushumi.Bora@timesofindia.com

If music be the food of love, play on. For England fans, three decades of the Euro 1996 'Three Lions' ditty has brought its share of rollercoaster emotions, from the lofty to the pathetic. But 60 years of hurt never stopped the delusions of grandeur.

"*It's coming home*," right? Well, laugh and let dreams die.

The fantasies may have been revived by Harry Kane's rescue act against DR Congo, but it could have changed had Yoane Wissa found the net, instead of the post, before half-time. It is always about the fine margins, ain't it?

Elsewhere, two fallen European giants have left North America short of conviction, haunted by penalties. Mighty France showed that time is not out of joint, while the irrepressible Mr Braut Haaland broke Ivory Coast hearts at deadline time.

Les Elephants will struggle to shake off that Texan memory. The Lions of Teranga, meanwhile, were evicted after a wild game against Belgium, shackled late and felled by what may yet be remembered as a VAR faux pas. The Round of 32 had begun with the chloroform match between South Africa and Canada, spectators woken only by the co-hosts' injury-time decider.

So Africa, the toast of the group stage with nine of a possible 10 knockout slots, has suffered the sharpest heartbreak in clutch time. Les Leopards, too, were undone by Kane's late strike and the narrative returned to the traditional script.

Speaking of tradition, one-hit wonders England will recall that their last World Cup outing at the Azteca was foiled by the hand and feet of God. Watching from applauding distance was Gary Lineker, now toppled from the top of the English World Cup goal charts. In his flamboyant podcast-host avatar, he has watched Kane — him of the dour demeanour — stride past him. Ever ready with a wink, Lineker points out that England's last World Cup meeting with Mexico came in the 1966 group stage, a harbinger of football paradise.

It is also only the second instance of England winning a World Cup match after going 1-0 down, the other being the 1966 final against Germany. Thanks, Opta.

Teetotaller Harry, who ends a night with a very English cuppa, might be tempted by a mug of the finest beer, like his mates at Bayern. But he will keep his feet on terra firma in Atlanta, knowing there is a mountain to climb: 7,200 feet above sea level in Mexico City on July 5. He had his "hero moment" in the birthplace of Martin Luther King, the belief streaming from a winning moment of balance, placement and power.

Released by Arsenal at eight for being "too slow, too small", Kane grafted his way up, fashioning himself on Cristiano Ronaldo. After finding his calling crosstown at Tottenham, the 6ft 3in predator led his country to the last two Euro finals, only to fall short. His move to Bayern last summer has taken him to another level, and to trophies: 72 goals in 62 games for England and Bayern in all competitions since Aug 2025. But England need more than their captain's finishing, or Jude Bellingham's brilliance, to progress.

Stats will tell you England can afford to dream. And while Thomas Tuchel, the only German not ready to go home, was brave and urgent with his substitutes on Wednesday, he still cannot find the right balance. The midfield lacks cohesion and the uncertainty in defence is amplified by his right-back chaos. Tuchel went for harmony in selection but the glaring exclusions may come back to haunt him.

Just like the ghosts of Azteca.

Mexico are on a 9-game unbeaten streak in World Cup matches in their capital. They have won 69 of 88 competitive matches there, drawn 17 and lost twice. In the last four, they have not conceded. Good for England that they will not play a low block. But Quinones, Jimenez and the rest will be eyeing the elusive "*quinto partido* (5th match)", where El Tri will move to the beat of a classic ranchera: "*Pero sigo siendo el rey* (I continue being king)."

England's script has so far unfolded in rain and air-conditioned stadiums. Now they need serious altitude attitude to breathe again: endurance, composure and lungs capable of coping with the thin air. When Kane & Co. serenaded the crowd after the DR Congo game, the chorus of a familiar Oasis number drifted through the stadium: "*Maybe, I said maybe / You're gonna be the one that saves me / And after all / You're my wonderwall.*"

Maybe, they said maybe.

Reuters

COMFORT ZONE: Harry Kane with wife Katie Goodland and children after the match

6 Kane became the sixth man to score five or more goals at two different World Cups — after Teofilo Cubillas, Miroslav Klose, Thomas Mueller, Lionel Messi, and Kylian Mbappe.

4 Kane has scored four headed goals in World Cups. Only Miroslav Klose with 7, and Gerd Mueller with 5, have scored more headed goals at WCs, since 1966.

DR Congo coach's father dies before England match

Kansas City: Democratic Republic of Congo coach Sebastien Desabre learnt of his father's death hours before the kick-off of his country's World Cup Round of 32 tie against England, where his side came agonisingly close to an upset victory.

The news was announced at the end of his post-match press conference when the team's media officer, Jerry Kalemo, said: "We announce that the coach has lost his father. Our sincere condolences."

Desabre, who turns 50 next month, responded with a quizzical look and then said "thank you", sparking erroneous reports that it was the first time he had heard the news. But he had been told before the match in Atlanta. Desabre's father had been ill for some time, the official said, but had no further details. REUTERS

Recovery question worries Norway

New York: As Norway prepare to face Brazil in the last 16 this Sunday — an opponent they have never lost to — managing player fatigue has become a central focus.

Erling Haaland scored Norway's 86th-min winner in the 2-1 win against Ivory Coast on Tuesday, but said afterward that he was "dead tired" and could not have faced extra time. Both Haaland and captain Martin Odegaard had been rested for Norway's final group match against France.

But head coach Stale Solbakken said Haaland was "on his last legs" early in the second half, giving Norway supporters cause for concern ahead of their clash with Brazil. "Can you undo the chronic stress that has accumulated over the course of the tournament, or the last season or two? No," said Dom Rae, a graduate in sports and exercise medicine who is working with Al Nasr. "These guys have played a lot," Rae said. "They are chronically fatigued. But you can freshen up to a significant level by kick-off."

Brazil have a six-day turnaround and Norway five. "The peak fatigue marker is around 48 hours," Rae said. "Into Day Five, everyone is pretty much back to normal. I'd actually rather have Norway's turnaround here than Brazil's," he said. REUTERS

Paqueta has a thigh injury: Brazil midfielder Lucas Paqueta, who limped off the field at halftime during his team's last World Cup match, has a thigh injury. The 28-year-old Paqueta had a scan that revealed a muscle injury at the back of a thigh.

Reuters

DR Congo coach Desabre with Yoane Wissa

Reuters

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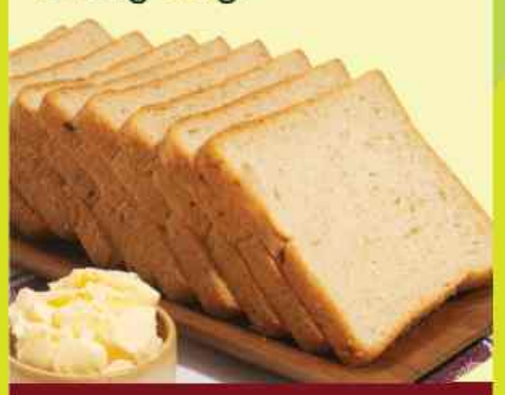

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Tielemans' goal helps Belgium overturn a two-goal deficit and score from penalty spot deep into extra time to beat Senegal 3-2, P 19

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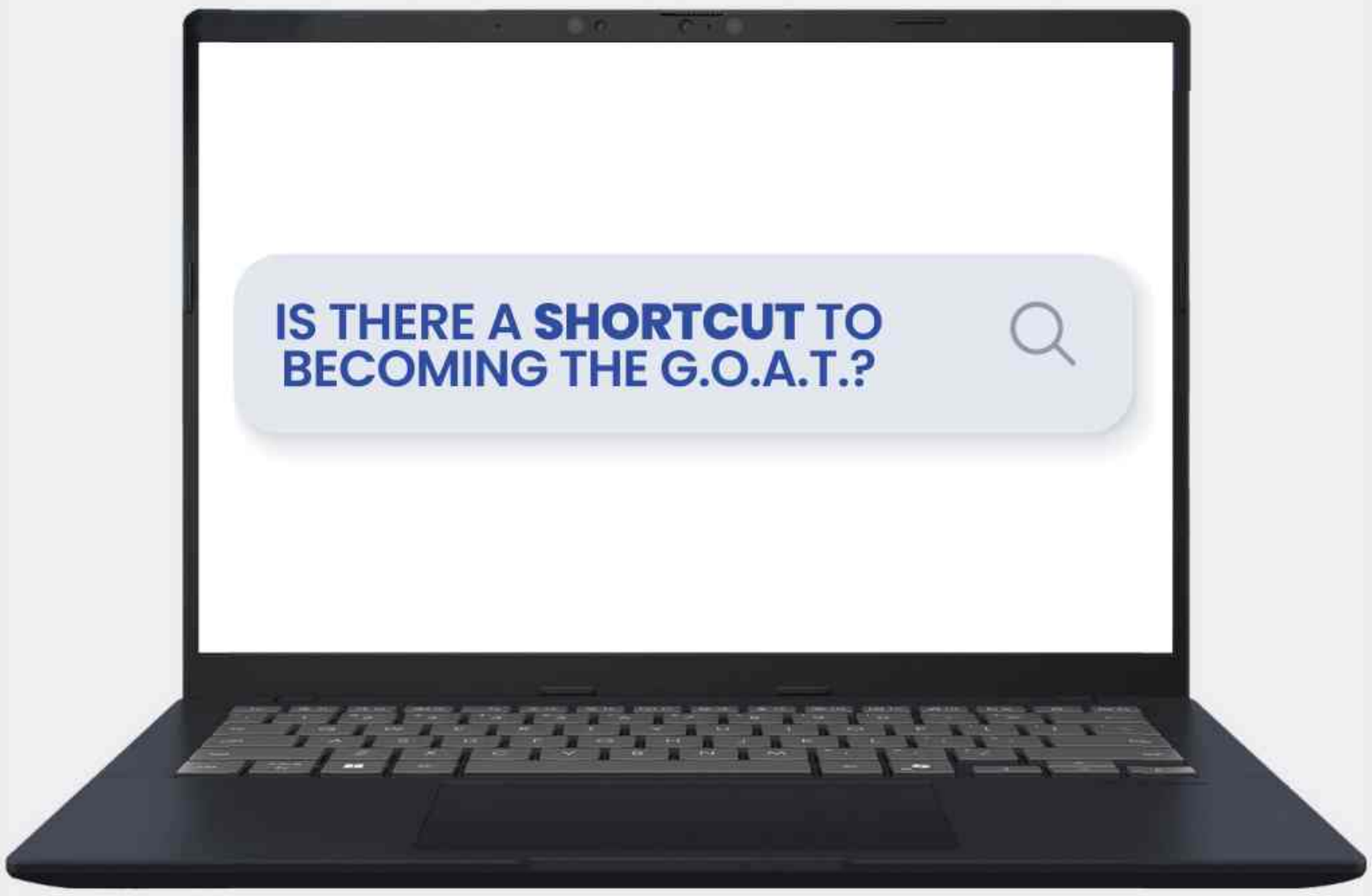

Maybe you can ctrl + C jersey no. 18.

Or ctrl + V yourself into Argentina wearing blue and white.

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ctrl + S your fortune, build a fancy house and wave at people on your birthday.

Go on a ctrl + X and grow six-pack abs like a certain Portuguese footballer.

ctrl + P your autograph, frame it and sell it for two lakh rupees.

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Keep hitting F5 on an AI chatbot until it describes you as "the G.O.A.T."

Or simply alt + tab into someone else's trophy cabinet.

From your gallery, ctrl + A funny pictures and let the internet turn you into a meme.

Make a ctrl + N social media account, get a blue tick and start sharing G.O.A.T hacks.

ctrl + O a company at 27 and make it to a certain 30 Under 30 list.

Maybe just keep pressing esc every time people call someone else the G.O.A.T.

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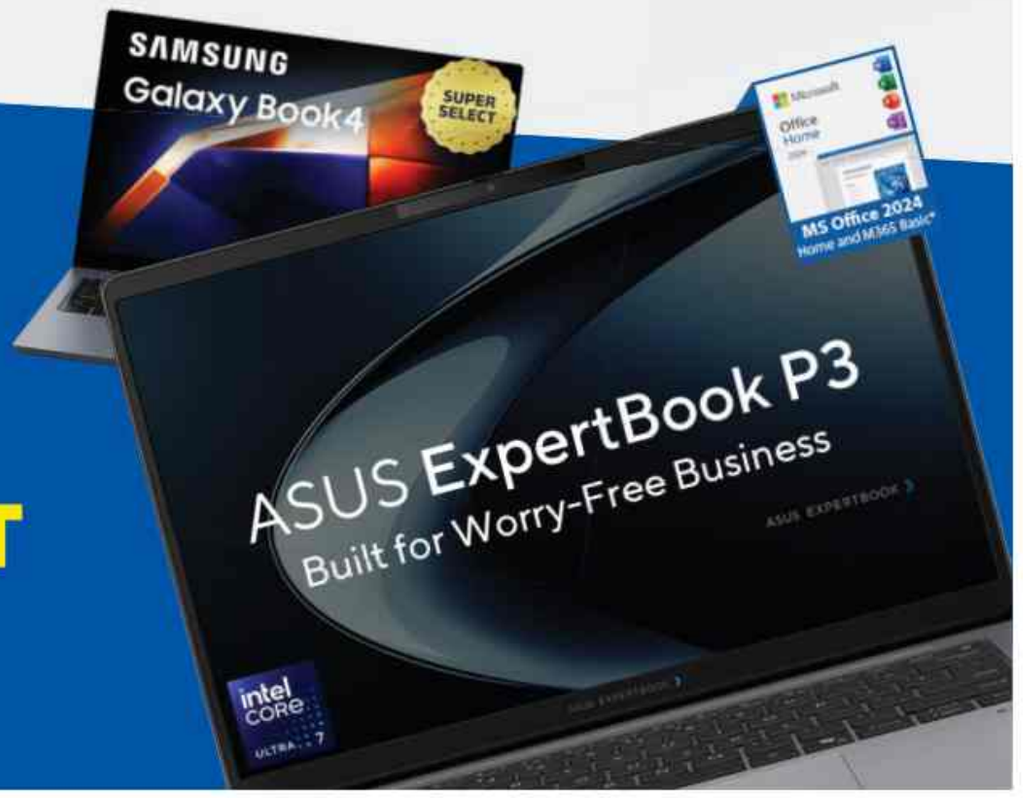

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